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ICOMatters

VOLUME 7 / ISSUE 1

MAGAZINE OF THE ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY AND THE ILLINOIS EYE INSTITUTE

SPRING / 2008

Management Issue

Entry to Practice
Practice Management
Exit Strategy

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Vegas in Chicago

He is known worldwide as "Mr. Las Vegas." He has won the Entertainer of the Year award repeatedly and is one of the highest-paid nightclub performers. But to Harold Davis, NICO '45, Wayne Newton is just another nice, polite patient.

Newton has been a patient of Davis's for approximately 25 years. He comes to the office when he is flying into or through Chicago; other times, Davis treats Newton in Las Vegas where Davis frequently lectures at optometry meetings.

Once the performer called Davis's mom to wish her a happy birthday and personally invite her to a show in Chicago. "Wayne dedicated a song to her," recalls Davis, adding, "That's just the kind of person he is."

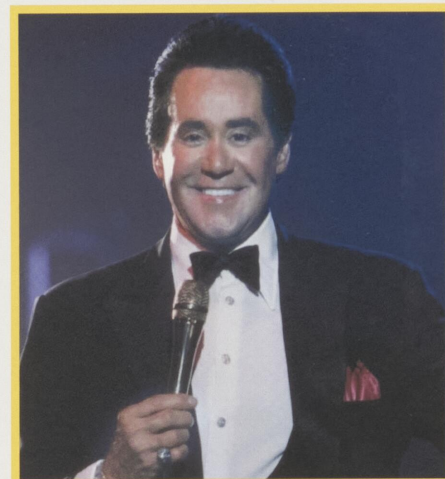


photo by Patrick Wilen

APRIL

Monday, April 21 – Wednesday, April 23

College/IEI Closed - Spring Recess

Externs Follow Externship Calendar

MAY

Friday, May 2

Last Day of Spring Quarter Classes/Labs

Saturday, May 3 – Saturday, May 10

Final Exams - Clinic as Assigned

Thursday, May 8 – Saturday, May 10

Midwest Eyecare Congress

ICO Exhibit Booth

Hyatt Regency O'Hare

Rosemont, IL

Monday, May 12 – Saturday, May 17

Make-Up Week/Break Week

Wednesday, May 14

Capstone Program

ICO Campus

Sunday, May 18

ICO Commencement

Rockefeller Chapel

Alumni Council Board Meeting

ICO Campus

Monday, May 19

First Day of Summer Quarter Classes

Saturday, May 24 – Monday, May 26

Memorial Day Holiday

JUNE

Saturday, June 7

Admissions Open House

ICO Campus

Thursday, June 26 – Saturday, June 28

AOA - Optometry's Meeting

ICO Exhibit Booth

Washington State Convention Center

Seattle, WA

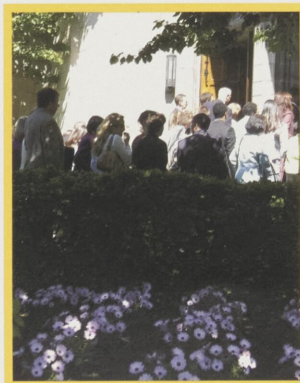
Friday, June 27

AOA - Optometry's Meeting

ICO Alumni Reception

Washington State Convention Center

Seattle, WA



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Cover photo: Joseph DiGiorgio, OD '82, with his staff at Vision Source, Orland Park. Photo by Andrew Campbell.

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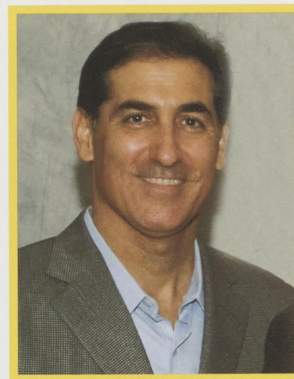
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CORRECTION

In the Fall 2007 Annual Report issue of *ICO Matters*, we incorrectly listed Joseph Schlaefer in the Class of 1958 Honor Roll. He should have been listed in the Class of 1947. We apologize for the error.

www.ico.edu

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS



BE PROUD OF YOUR DOCTORATE FROM ICO!

As the President of ICO's Alumni Council, I have the privilege of leading a distinct and committed group of alumni who have volunteered to further the mission of the Alumni Association. Your Alumni Council consists of ICO optometrists like yourself who support the College and advise ICO on how we might all work together to maintain its position of leadership and to advance the tenets of our profession. The mission of the Alumni Association is to foster current and future alumni relations in support of the mission of the College.

Toward that end, the Alumni Council has taken steps to develop a Strategic Plan that will address the needs of both current and future alumni as well as the needs of the College. We are excited to have the opportunity to provide services and programs that will enhance your practice and which will, subsequently, strengthen the College and the profession. Our Alumni Association focuses on increasing and vitalizing your connection to ICO and plays an important role in sustaining the College's mission: to provide excellence in optometric clinical education.

As I do, you may occasionally reflect on the educational experience you had at ICO or one of its predecessor schools. Through it all we prevailed in attaining the coveted doctorate degree in optometry. What a powerful launch in professional life that was! Enjoying a profession for a lifetime is a challenge and opportunity that only a small percentage of people have the privilege to experience.

While you are now enjoying your hard-earned abundance and secure comfort, remember that time when you were one of the students who sat in the classroom, working diligently, persisting through the academic rigors, and absorbing an education to attain an OD diploma.

The members of ICO's dedicated faculty give of themselves every day to create independent, self-actualizing doctors of optometry. A host of dedicated personnel working for the students help make the dream of becoming an optometrist a reality. That is one of the reasons the value of your ICO degree continues to appreciate. As the College strengthens, so do your credentials from ICO.

Now, consider ways you can vitalize the strength of ICO. Have you thought of giving back to the institution that provided you with the

education to live comfortably, the skills to serve the vision needs of humanity and the ability to make a significant impact in countless lives? You can make a positive difference in the lives of current students and this will, ultimately, enhance your own diploma. Through your contribution, you are saying "yes" to the future of excellence in optometric clinical education, "yes" to the men and women who are educating our future colleagues, and "yes" to the young adults who are pursuing their dreams. I'm sure you, better than anyone else, understand the importance of quality optometric education. Your contribution ensures that your diploma, your alma mater, and your profession continue to flourish.

How can you make a contribution to ICO and promote its mission? Since the Alumni Association no longer requires dues, you may choose to contribute to the annual fund or become a Leadership Circle member. Simply contact the College and speak to Patricia de Maat in the Development Office at 312-949-7071 or pdemaat@ico.edu, or give online via the ICO website, www.ico.edu.

Thank you to all the alumni and friends who currently support the College with annual gifts.

Robert L. Grazian, O.D.

Robert L. Grazian, OD '82

A Message from the PRESIDENT

DEAR ALUMNI, COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS,

What sets one college of
optometry apart from the others?



THE PERCEPTION OF VALUE

That's often what one uses to assess distinction. In the case of the Illinois College of Optometry, we are distinguished by the wealth of patient care experiences our students gain during their optometric training. They care for truly needy individuals, both on our campus and at our nearly 130 affiliated patient care/clinical training sites over the course of their education at ICO.

Our perceived value also includes a highly motivated faculty that is truly interested in the success and welfare of our students. It includes a state-of-the-art Learning Center, which is being constructed on our third floor as you read this. It includes the largest network of alumni optometrists throughout the world who provide access and entry-to-practice situations virtually everywhere.

This perception of the value of the optometric education at the Illinois College of Optometry is real. We are proud to have had the largest number of applicants to our program of any college of optometry during the past decade.

As you read about practice management in this issue of *ICO Matters*, note that management of a successful optometric practice is also largely assessed by perceived value. Clearly, we are committed to excellence in contemporary optometric patient care, and our

patients rightfully deserve our best for their individual eye- and vision-care needs. But to fully serve our patients, we also need to be aware of how important patients' perceptions are. If they leave your office with the best optometric care available, but are not "wowed" by the experience, both the optometrist and the patient are poorly served.

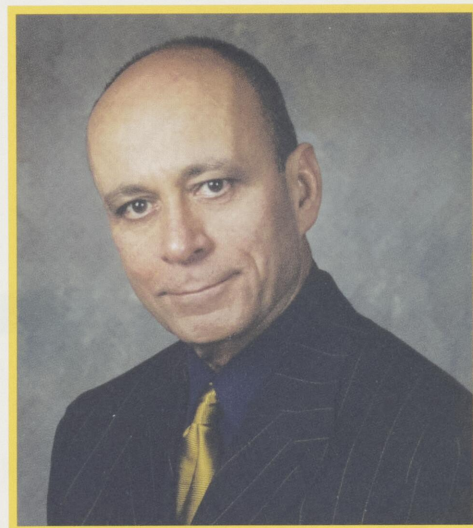
I am so pleased that this issue of *ICO Matters* highlights what so many of our outstanding alumni know: the successful practice of optometry includes the knowledge and application of sound practice management principles. That's what sets them apart. That adds real value.

Arrol Augsperger OD

TO: ICO Alumni
From: Dr. Richard S. Kattouf

TOPIC: Practice Management

DATE: Spring 2008



Of all the health professions, optometry is the only one with three distinct practice settings: independent, corporate and commercial. The independent OD owns his/her practice; the corporate and commercial ODs are either private contractors or employees. All have the same training.

Q: HOW WOULD YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER CHOOSE A CARDIOLOGIST?

Certainly when it comes to our systemic health, we would not seek a "bargain" cardiologist. ODs are classified by the federal government as optometric physicians. But most of the medical and specialty eye care ODs are trained for must be referred out in the majority of corporate and commercial settings. This is because these organizations want the OD to create optical traffic, not treat eye disease or perform specialties.

The independent doctor uses his/her imagination. There are no limits. Through proper practice management and development, you can achieve a \$1 million-dollar gross income with a net of \$380,000.

Let me make one thing perfectly clear. Private practice, which demands ongoing practice management, is not for the faint of heart. Neither is succeeding through four years of rigorous undergraduate courses and testing, followed by an even-more demanding four years of professional school.

Q: WHY DO WE GO TO COLLEGE FOR A MINIMUM OF EIGHT YEARS?

In my opinion, years spent in college free an individual from being anyone's employee. Entrepreneurism and imagination are the staples of private practice and practice management. The employee simply practices general optometry. He/she owns nothing and builds no equity. The independent owner sets the mode of practice, not a "store" manager.

With independent optometry comes the challenge of owning and operating two professional businesses; a clinic and a retail optical department. Every OD is capable of practicing at the highest level. If more of you would maximize your knowledge, our beloved profession would benefit greatly.

Keep this in mind: Do not look for bargains in brain surgery, parachutes and vision care.

Q: AFTER EIGHT YEARS OF COLLEGE WHAT TYPE OF IMAGE DO YOU DESIRE?

Are you a "real doctor," or as many consumers say, "my glasses doctor?" As an independent OD, you create the image you desire through proper practice development. When you are an employee in a department store or warehouse setting, you are not in charge of shaping your image. The patient rarely knows your name, only the name of the "store."

Richard Kattouf, OD, FCO



Renaissance Man: STEPHEN PUGH JOINS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Attorney Stephen H. Pugh sees a renaissance underway in Chicago, and he's determined that the Illinois College of Optometry will be a key part of it. Pugh joined the College's Board of Trustees on January 1, 2008. As ICO's "public trustee," he represents a constituency outside the alumni, optometrist or individual otherwise involved in eye care.

"We're in the midst of a renaissance in Chicago, especially on the near South Side," says Pugh. "I think ICO is in a strategic place [to benefit from and contribute to this revitalization] — geographically, educationally, and in terms of the services ICO offers."

In many ways, Pugh considers ICO a hidden jewel; it provides outstanding services, yet is not widely known beyond its patients, students, faculty and local neighbors. He is working with his colleagues on the Board of Trustees to promote ICO's public image as a leading healthcare provider, educational institution and business.

Pugh brings legal expertise, professional relationships throughout Chicago, and a commitment to this city's successful growth to his role as an ICO trustee. He grew up in Chicago and attended both college and law school at Loyola University. As an attorney and founding partner of Pugh, Jones, Johnson & Qandari, P.C., he specializes in real estate litigation, public finance and

local government representation. In addition to his recent election to the ICO Board of Trustees, Pugh sits on other prominent boards in Chicago, including Columbia College, the Alliance of Business Leaders and Entrepreneurs (ABLE), the Legal Assistance Foundation, and the Emergency Fund, to name a few. He also is a member of the legal advisory committee working to bring the 2016 Olympics to Chicago.

"I believe ICO can be very valuable helping athletes who come from all over the world who may need eye care," he says. From its location on south Michigan Avenue, "ICO will be in the midst of everything" proposed for the 2016 Olympics.

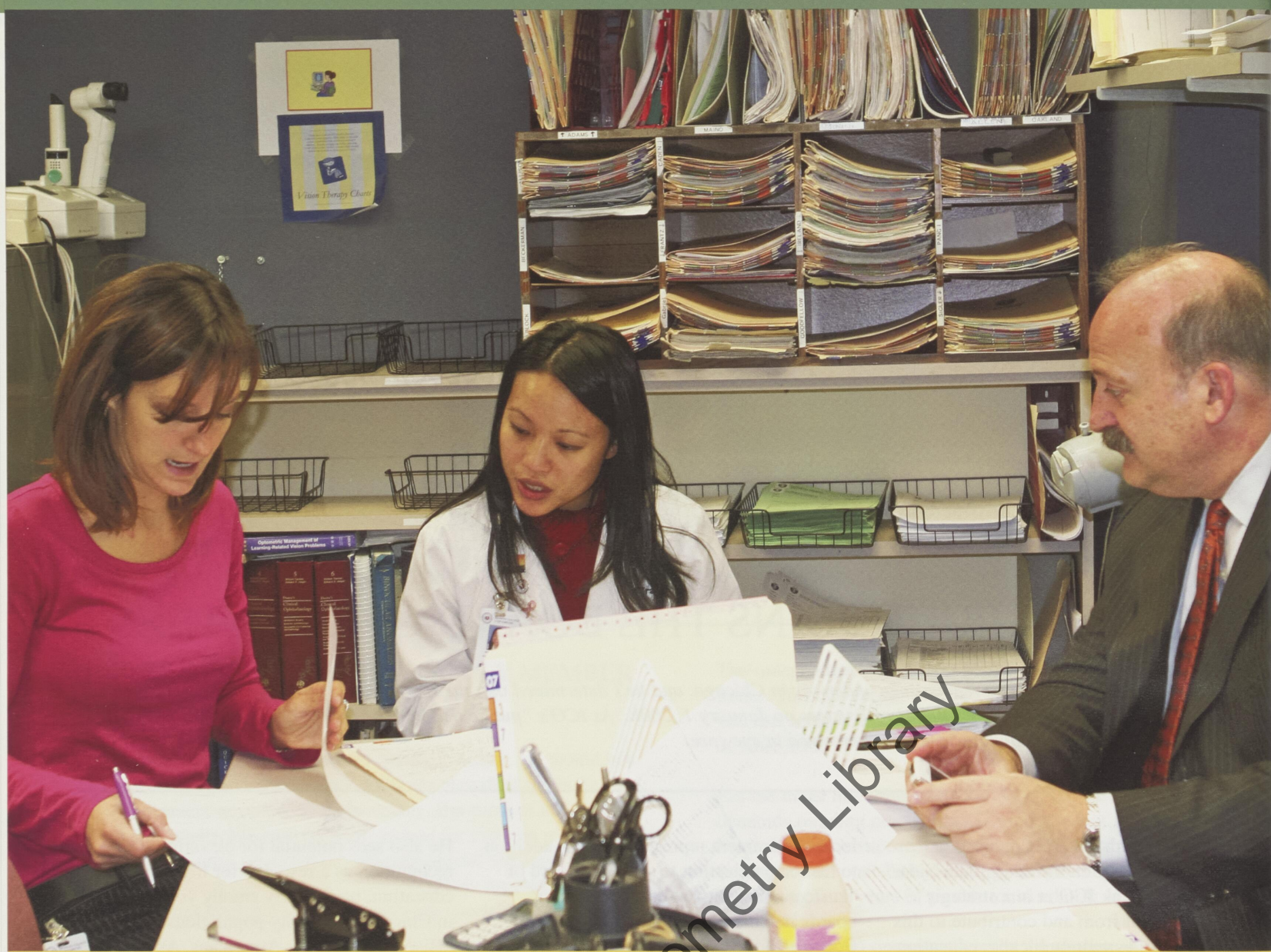
The pending selection of a 2016 Olympic host city notwithstanding, Pugh believes ICO is in the right position for this time in Chicago's history. In addition to raising awareness about the advanced eyecare services IEI provides, he sees potential to raise ICO/IEI's visibility within Chicago's business, political and legal communities.

He also sees potential for elevating ICO's recognition as a resource for higher education, particularly among young adults in Chicago's minority populations. "Hispanics, African-Americans, Asians, Indians and other minority groups are vibrant parts of Chicago," he says. "We need doctors of optometry to represent and serve these populations."

Part of what drew Pugh to ICO was its leadership. "ICO has a dynamic leader in Dr. Arol Augsburger," he says of the ICO President, who invited Pugh to consider election to the ICO board. Pugh and Augsburger met through their mutual involvement in Chicago-based organizations and activities.

Now, Pugh says he's happy to be involved with the College. "ICO is beginning to grow its reputation. It's exciting for me to be part of that growth."

— Michelle Rapaport



BE OUR GUEST

ICO hosts its first visiting professor, Dr. Leonard J. Press

For four days this February, the Illinois College of Optometry hosted its first-ever visiting professor, Dr. Leonard J. Press, Optometric Director of the Vision and Learning Center in Fair Lawn, New Jersey. A nationally recognized expert on pediatrics, binocular vision and vision and learning, Press presented lectures to faculty and students, worked with students in a clinical setting and gave a four-hour continuing education presentation while at ICO.

His visit was made possible by the Dr. and Mrs. Dominick Maino Visiting Professor Endowment Fund, created to enhance scholarly activity and patient care for its students, patients, and faculty. The fund will continue to provide annual support for visiting professorships in pediatrics and binocular vision.

"Dr. Maino was very effective in organizing a lecture for the students," Press said, "and even though it was held between 4 and 5 pm on a Friday — not a prime slot for a lecturer — I was gratified that 100 students came. It was entirely voluntary, and yet many first-year students who don't know much about the field came to hear the lecture."



Indeed, one first-year student wrote Maino, OD '78: "Thank you very much for starting the visiting professor program. As a first-year, I assumed I would understand very little of Dr. Press's presentation, but that was not the case at all.

It was informative, entertaining, and motivating to me. I really appreciate your efforts in helping us as a student body to have these wonderful opportunities. The more exposure to all different aspects of optometry we have, the better we understand how we fit into this great profession."

Press was also pleased with a good showing from a faculty lecture he designed to encourage his colleagues to network outside of the field of optometry. "I related my experiences meeting individuals in the allied professions, and how I was able to broaden awareness of what we do," said Press. "Most people think they know what our profession is about, but I think they still confuse the 'three Os': optometry, ophthalmology, and opticianry."

Networking outside one's field helps build positive influence in other allied professions and increases optometrists' access to networks of colloquia, conferences, and other professional meetings, he said. "That broadens our sphere of influence and benefits us as practitioners as well as the field at large."

In fact, it's networking that led Maino to establish the visiting professorship.

"I thought something like this would be ideal for the Illinois College of

Optometry," he said. "We could bring in non-ICO experts who could share their knowledge with our community." Maino said a "generous gift from a patient of mine" also helped bring in Press.

Visiting professorships are healthy for optometric colleges that can sometimes become insular. "It is a unique opportunity for me to be able to impart an enthusiasm for the field and a perspective from outside the College," Press said. "It also helps build a positive and healthy reinforcement for students when they hear about approaches that are not just proprietary to their own faculty, but are widely acknowledged to be effective around the country, both from a teaching and a clinical standpoint."

In sum, "It's been awesome," Maino said of Press's visit. He said other visiting professorship programs are now in development that will emphasize various clinical areas of expertise at ICO.

— Susan Soric



(l to r) Drs. Maino and Press

Dr. E. R. Tennant: In Memoriam

Come one and all to our last call for comments in honor of Dr. Richard Tennant

Deadline: May 15, 2008

Per the superior suggestion of Alfred A. Rosenbloom, Jr., NICO '48, and Neil Hodur, OD '75, *ICO Matters* is gathering memories of Dr. Tennant for a special section in an upcoming issue.

A beloved ICO educator, Dr. Tennant taught 25,000 students over the course of his career, and was repeatedly voted "Teacher of the Year." Dr. Tennant taught for more than 30 years, until his death in 1988.

Please share your photos and stories in honor of the 20th anniversary of Dr. Tennant's death, and indicate if you would like your contribution returned.

Email *ICO Matters* at clmmarti@gmail.com, or mail your comments to:

ICO
Office of Alumni Relations
3241 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60616

Thank you!!

MANAGEMENT ISSUE

A look at practice management, from the early days in clinic to the last

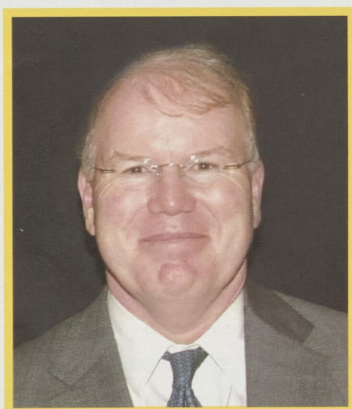
Everyone knows the reason to enter optometry school is to treat patients. That may not be the ultimate activity for many ODs, but generally speaking, students start out hoping to work in a clinical setting.

Toward that end, the Illinois College of Optometry consistently strives to provide students with clinical opportunities, early and often. And it has created an array of programs focusing on modes of practice.

In this issue of ICO Matters, we explore various turning points on the road of a long career. Come along as we listen to third-year students recount their first solo exams, hear an alumnus describe how it felt to open a private practice and marvel at how busy retirement can be for those leaving practice.

ENTRY TO PRACTICE

ICO works hard to help students prepare to practice optometry



"We're on a journey here," says Dr. Kent Daum, ICO's Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs. He's referring to the tremendous change in pedagogy taking place in optometric education... well, education at large. But at the Illinois College of Optometry, that means a shift in the academic model, and, Daum says, "The implications are profound, and they are profoundly good in almost every sense."

As Daum explains it, "What's happened nationally and probably internationally, is that education has come to grips with 'teaching' students versus students' 'learning.' A teaching model versus a learning model," he says. "Teaching is focused on delivery – how you present and lecture. But it has the potential to lose power because students don't necessarily absorb the information. Teaching has to be connected to students actually learning. So we have to have a learning model. And that means we have to have learning objectives. What do I want them to learn? How can I help them? What's become important is how to confirm they've learned it."

And, Daum continues, the only way to do that is hands on. "Until they see patients, they aren't going to learn it," he says. "When it's really life stuff, you have to learn in real-life situations."

That's why ICO is working so hard to provide students with even more hands-on experiences and opportunities to explore practice modes well in advance of their graduation date. Currently, students gain exposure to the clinic as early as their first year, and they start seeing patients solo in their third. But a recently developed program, Clinical Honors, builds on experience some students gain before getting to ICO.

According to Mark Colip, OD '92, Vice President for Student Affairs, more and more students are arriving at the College with clinical exposure from working in practices before they arrive at ICO. They have already learned and used some of the basic technical skills their colleagues will learn during the first year at ICO. Now they can, in essence, "test out" of those skills and start clinical rotations earlier.

"It's been a pilot program developed by Dr. John Baker, ICO's Chair of Clinical Education, over the last two years," Colip says. "Students who gained skills before coming to ICO get fast-tracked into clinic, and the refinement of their skills. The Clinical Honors Program allows ICO to give them credit. It allows some customization of their program according to their specific background."

Another advance at ICO over recent years has been the development of practice modes symposia and practice management education. "One reason I came back to ICO was I wanted to develop more in that area," Colip says. "When I graduated we had one course in practice management taken in the third year. Now we have a Practice Opportunities Symposium, a Private Practice Club, a professional career counselor, an online placement program, a Small Business Institute, a Private Practice Clerkship in addition to multiple practice management courses and electives. Students are also encouraged to attend state, regional and national conferences to learn from others in the profession. Industry comes to campus for special topics presentations. We expose students to all the different modes available to them. Now there's so much, it can pose a problem for scheduling." (See chart of offerings on p. 10.)



Colip says the increase is in response to a call from students and alumni for more business preparation. "The fact is, when students are at ICO, they're trying to master the art and science of optometry – which is a full-time plus job," he explains. "But if they don't take some time to explore extra-curricular offerings in practice management, they may regret it later."

So, "ICO is revising the curriculum in real time," Colip says. "We can do it. We can react to market forces. One benefit of the ICO education is we listen and take action. Other programs may not have the flexibility that being a private school offers, not to mention the charge for continuous improvements required by ICO's strategic plan. We can make changes...and we are."

But Colip adds, a lot of what's happened lately could not have happened without the support of the entire community, and that includes alumni. "What we appreciate from the College's side is the involvement of alumni," he says. "I see increasing willingness to come back to participate in the Private Practice Symposium or alumni panels or just offering

encouraging words at meetings and conferences to students about their futures. The students really benefit and enjoy those. When students listen to alumni, they learn."

But, "One big area where we are lagging is doctors thinking in advance about bringing young associates into their practices well before they are ready to retire," Colip says. "Even those in the prime of practice should be thinking about their future transition plans. Those deals take months, if not years to develop. ICO gets calls periodically asking for a new graduate to take over an office within a few weeks or months. But grooming an associate is really something to think about and plan for well in advance, and ICO presents some great opportunities for meeting and interacting with our current students and future graduates."

Because, Colip says, in the end, students working with alumni is win-win. Alumni get to recruit the best and brightest minds that have learned state-of-the-art optometry at ICO, and students get a glimpse into the private practice world they dream of entering.



Zeki Nur, ICO's Director of Benefits Administration and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Finance, teaches "Planning/Managing Debt and Career Goals"

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT OFFERINGS AT ICO

Over the past decade or so, the number of opportunities for ICO students to learn about practice management has grown exponentially. In 2007, for example, offerings ranged from working in a private practice to a course on managing debt. Take a look at last year's list:

Practice Management Course (Third Year - required)
Practice Opportunities Symposium
Private Practice Club
Conferences
Alumni Weekend Recent Graduate Panel
IL Optometric Association Convention Student Day/Track
American Optometric Association Convention Student Day/Track
AOA Career Center information and registry packet

Professional Practice Opportunities Counselor

- One-on-one coaching sessions
- Paraprofessional positions
- Shadowing and observation
- Database/network

Professional Career Development Office's
Lunch N Learn series

Online Placement Program

Capstone Program
Listing of FAQs answered by AOA experts

ELECTIVE COURSE STUDY

Starting a Practice
Planning/Managing Debt and Career Goals
Coding, Billing and Reimbursement
Private Practice Clerkship

The Small Business Institute,
offered in conjunction with The Business Institute at
Oakton Community College:

- Building a Business Plan
- Small Business Marketing
- Small Business Operations
- Business Accounting and Finance
- Real Estate Issues for the Small Business Owner
- Consultation and Review of Business Plans

Inside Story

ICO STUDENTS START PRACTICE IN THEIR THIRD YEAR

It's a rite of passage no optometrist ever forgets – the first day in clinic. For ICO graduates, that happens at least three times: in the third year, the fourth year and after graduation.

Students begin clinical rotations as early as their individual program allows; for most that's in the third year. This means they "go to work" at the Illinois Eye Institute two days a week, seeing patients solo for the first time. Attending physicians oversee their exams and supervise visits, but students are on their own when it comes to patient interaction and diagnostic procedures.

IT CAN BE HARROWING.

Third-year student Melissa Zarn's first patient required a test she'd never given. "I was like, oh my god, I'm terrified," she now says.

Still, by the time ICO students enter clinic full time in their fourth year, they have seen nearly 100 patients, and they feel almost ready to enter practice. "I'm almost on my way to being a doctor," says third-year Casey Bartz, who has been in clinic since last May. "Not that I'm completely ready as of yet, but I see it as being obtainable."

Then the first day of clinic after graduation is still another ballgame – there's nothing like the beginning of professional practice. Nevertheless, students at ICO gain valuable insight and diverse experience through the clinical exposure they gain in the program.

Bartz's first day in clinic was a Wednesday in the afternoon. On Tuesday night, he had a good meal, did some last minute reviewing, "trying to be ready," and went to bed early. "I was able to sleep," he recalls, "But once I got up in the morning and the time got closer to my clinic slot, I got nervous and anxious."

Bartz kept remembering other students' stories. Not horror stories, he says, but pathologies. And he wondered what kind of person his first patient would be: old, young, male, female ... he had no clue what he'd see. "It could have been anything," he says. "But once the time came, I took a deep breath and knew there was no turning back."

Bartz's first patient was nothing unusual. Nothing unusual except trying to get the case history. The patient was a 10-year-old boy. "The child didn't bring up things his parents brought up," Bartz says. "He presents as



nothing wrong going on. But I asked his parents and they said otherwise. I learned kids may not tell the whole story."

The learning aspect of being in clinic is one of the best parts for Bartz. "I think I will always be a perpetual learner," he says.

Same for Zarn. "The best part about clinical is you're learning new things all the time," she says. "But how prepared am I going to feel when I get a patient and I don't know what's going on?"

She'll feel like running to the library. "It hits me both ways," Zarn says. "It's exciting to know I'll always be learning. It's scary to think I'll never know everything."

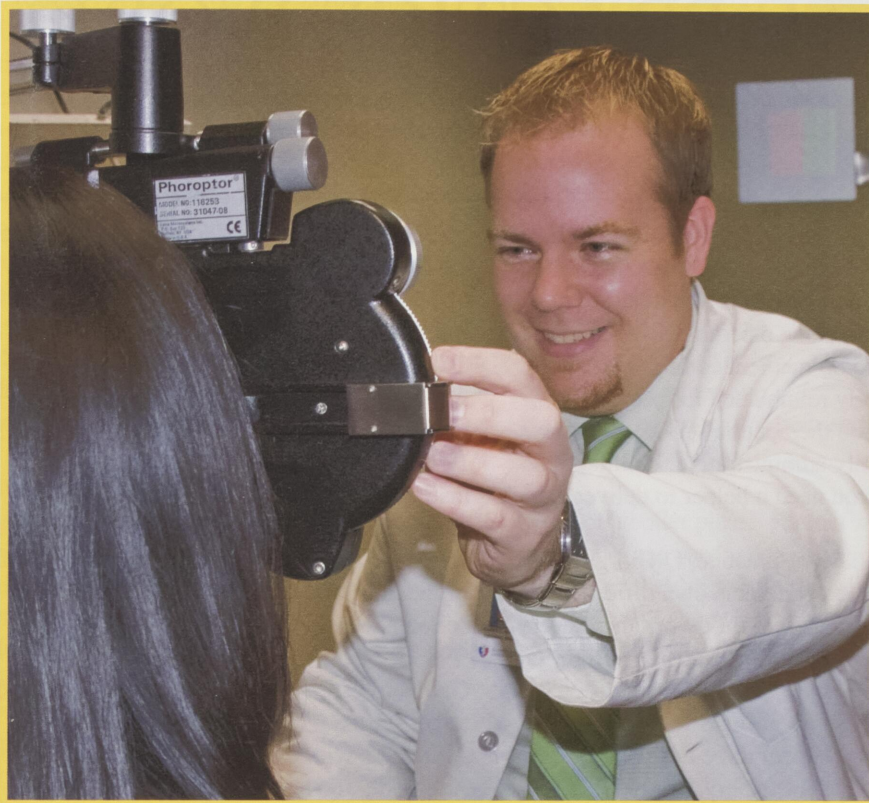
That isn't scary for Bartz. "I've realized it's OK not to know everything," he says. "You have resources to see you through. You have plenty of access to information. There's no reason to feel uncomfortable."

Bartz's problem is the paper work. "I hate paper charts," he says. "I want to type things in. I get bogged down with the practice management aspects."

And the white coat. "I'll never wear a white coat," he says. "They're hot, they're intimidating. I don't need the coat to present the persona."

At this point, Bartz is living the persona. "Now I'm in the final stretch," he says. "Victory is soon here. I don't feel stress at this point."

In this area, Zarn cannot entirely concur. "I started to feel comfortable about a month or two into clinic," she says. "Then my attending doctor changed. I had gotten into a routine, had a working relationship with him and then there was someone new. That made me nervous again. By the end of the summer, I was comfortable again. Then we took time off for boards and to finish summer term. We didn't get back in clinic



for two-and-a-half weeks. Then, all bets were off and I felt terrible again. After another month I started to feel OK.

"But I'm a worrier," Zarn says. "I'm always worried I won't make it to the next step, that something will throw me off." She recalls fall quarter of her second year. Zarn was working in the IEI Advocate clinic taking histories, giving entrance tests. "I was really excited about it. But as a worrier I thought something would happen and they'd kick me out of school. But my grades aren't bad enough to be kicked out."

Zarn frets so much because she wants so badly to be an optometrist. An older student at age 32, she graduated from Virginia Tech in 1997 with a degree in Engineering, Science and Mechanics. She got a job in project management for defense contracts. But about six years in, "I realized I had to do something different," Zarn says. "I had the pre-requisites for optometry so I started applying."

The first couple of years were intense, but now that Zarn is seeing patients regularly, she knows the stress was

worth it. "Being in clinic validates that this is what I want to do. It was hard to know in the first two years. But it's really exciting for me to go and see a patient, try to figure out what's going on. To be able to talk to the attending and say this is what I think and have them say 'Good job.' Knowing what's going on – that's really...I can't explain. After working for a company and never really being happy ... to be in clinic now and to be excited about what I'm doing – that's everything. I definitely feel like I've hit my stride now."

Zarn anticipates another bout with worry when she goes on to her fourth-year externships, but that's just her. "Every time I walk into the clinic I have that fear of not getting it right," she says. "I want to be a doctor and I don't want to be a bad doctor. My rational side knows I'm competent; my emotional side says I'll never be good enough."

She concludes, "It's exciting and scary. I don't know if it could be exciting if it wasn't scary."

4TH-YEAR FLYING HIGH

Elizabeth Warren shines in externship experience



Fourth-year student Elizabeth Warren is in the midst of ICO's externship program, the year-long series of community-based clinical residencies required for all students. Throughout the year, she has rotated among various sites, gaining experience in a variety of healthcare delivery systems.

Last fall Warren was based at the Providence VA Eye Clinic in Rhode Island. While there, she discovered a peripheral horseshoe tear in a veteran who presented with a history of floaters. The tear was nearly impossible to find. In fact, Warren had to help locate it for some doctors with more clinical experience than she has.

But that's not all. Then she had to re-locate the patient. He didn't want to pursue treatment and left the clinic against medical advice. But Warren called him at home and persuaded him to receive prophylactic laser retinopexy for the tear late that afternoon.

"This clinical scenario not only attests to Warren's meticulous examination skills – among the best I've seen in a student at her level – but more importantly her single-minded devotion to the patient and his vision," wrote Warren's supervisor. "She most likely prevented a retinal detachment in the patient's eye. She is a true patient advocate and a credit to her profession, institution and the Providence VA Medical Center. Needless to say, these qualities will serve her in good stead in her future optometric career!"

"ICO really prepared me for the variety and challenge of the patients I encountered over the course of the year," says Warren. "I feel very fortunate to have worked at some amazing facilities, where my clinical knowledge base has grown exponentially. The externships have been so valuable."

The Illinois College of Optometry maintains nearly 130 affiliations with externship sites in the Chicago metropolitan area, throughout the United States and across the world. They are located in major teaching hospitals, research centers, outpatient service departments and private group practices. If you are interested in participating in ICO's externship program, please contact Dr. Brian Caden at (312) 949-7310 or bcaden@ico.edu.

Practice Management

MAKING PRIVATE PRACTICE WORK

In the 1980s, when Joseph DiGiorgio, OD '82, was in school at the Illinois College of Optometry, he took the practice management course taught by Neil Gailmard, OD '76. DiGiorgio had always planned to enter private practice when he graduated, and Gailmard's course galvanized that ambition. "If you want to do it, you can do it," DiGiorgio remembers Gailmard saying.

Now, as the profession of optometry has evolved and modes of practice include commercial and corporate opportunities, students face new options and challenges in deciding how they will practice. "Now the perception is it's harder to enter private practice," DiGiorgio says. "But I agree with Dr. Gailmard: If you want to do it, you can do it."

To support that claim, optometrists such as Gailmard have established consulting companies that not only help young ODs get started, they assist practitioners at every point in their careers. "My expertise," Gailmard says, "is helping doctors who own practices."

He started Gailmard Consulting in 2004 when it became apparent that ODs need help with management issues. "Optometrists are not trained in business disciplines such as marketing, human resources, managerial finance and organizational behavior," Gailmard says. "But in addition to being doctors, they are actually the CEOs of companies that must compete in today's business world. They need professional guidance." Gailmard earned his MBA in 1998 and also writes a weekly e-newsletter for *Optometric Management* magazine.

In his opinion, the need for thoughtful practice management, and for consultants to facilitate that, is growing because the eyecare marketplace is increasingly complex. "Optometrists face new forms of competition, from mega discount retailers to online mail-order companies selling contact lenses and eyeglasses," Gailmard says. "These are formidable. In addition, our scope of practice is expanding rapidly, making it more difficult to wear two hats; that of doctor and CEO. Today, doctors increasingly need to spend time on the clinical aspects of eye care." But, he says, they also contend with discount vision plans that hold down professional fees while requiring more administrative time.

In fact, DiGiorgio says administrative work takes so much time, he needs help to manage everything. Medical billing and coding alone,

which makes up a significant portion of his practice income, takes significant time, and it's just one portion of the administrative work load. "Among other things, today's OD must learn to do medical coding and billing to get properly reimbursed for providing diagnostic and therapeutic services," he says. "This is purely administrative. It all takes so much time you need a helper to deliver care."

In his early days of practice, DiGiorgio was that helper. He opened his own office right out of school, but he didn't work there every day. "I held three different positions right out of school," he says. "I worked six days a week, but only two at my own practice. In the beginning, I spent three days and three nights at a different facility. For me, the goal was to pay bills, not make money. I always thought I'd work multiple locations – that's not unusual. Eventually, I phased out the evening employment, but I continued to work outside my clinic for...I can't remember how long. Certainly I was still doing it nine years later."

Which was a good thing, says DiGiorgio. "Working in other locations helped me develop more skills. I felt like I was learning so much. ICO does a good job, but you need to have some hands-on experience, too. I advise new doctors to try to find an opportunity to get into a private practice, at least on a part-time basis initially.

So does Richard S. Kattouf, OD '72, Chairman of the ICO Board of Trustees and founder of Kattouf Consulting Services. He agrees with Gailmard that going into private practice is definitely possible. "No matter where I lecture," Kattouf says, "students wonder how they can afford to start a practice, especially given their debt load. They think there is no way they can buy into something or start a practice.

"That is absolutely false," Kattouf declares. "A new grad may not need money to 'buy in.' Maybe they get in through sweat or work equity. The idea that it's not doable is a false

perception. Graduates see debt; they can't see the forest for the trees."

But consultants such as Kattouf and Gailmard help them see the big picture. According to Gailmard, it's actually easier to get a business loan today than in the 1970s, when he started. "There are institutions happy to loan money," he says. "And usually there's plenty of work. If you're starting out cold, have another source of income. You can get a salary from that, so loans will be granted."

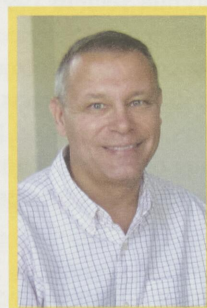
Gailmard estimates it takes at least \$100,000 to get started but, "more than that is better. And that's with another source of income." According to Kattouf, "To start a practice cold, depending on the state, you're going to spend \$150-175,000 on creating an office space, inventory, equipment. Then you need \$75,000 for working capital. That goes in the bank, not to touch unless you need a safety net to cover costs."

Those numbers may sound high, but Kattouf says it's possible to gross as much as \$250,000 the first year, and that kind of income pays down the debt pretty quickly.

Of course that kind of income requires strict attention to a well-worked-out business plan, which could include a consultant. "Consultants can provide a roadmap," Kattouf says. That may cost another \$20,000, but, he says, "If you invest \$200,000 in a business, 10 percent isn't bad to ensure success."



Joseph DiGiorgio,
OD '82



Neil Gailmard,
OD '76

"You have to have your eye on the prize," DiGiorgio says. "If you want a solid foundation, it's important to invest in the future, not a car. One thing I've started to see more is that when young people graduate, they feel they deserve a big reward, so they spend big money, maybe on a car. Then they find themselves with even more debt. You have to build a solid foundation. Don't buy a fancy car. Buy good tools. Work enough jobs. Establish a practice that will be successful one day and that will be your reward. Ours grew like a tree. It started as a sapling, and now it's a good strong tree."

And DiGiorgio is hiring his own ICO graduates. Though he's found turnover with recent grads can be common as they figure out their lives, DiGiorgio has been pleased with the College's placement program. "I look to ICO as a partner because they're doing a good job of grooming young students," he says. "They have a great team of people. Tracy [Faulkner, ICO's Professional Career Development Counselor] has really reached out to alumni, and she works well with students. I've always felt good karma with ICO."

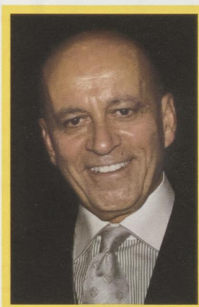
Kattouf and Gailmard are also resources for practitioners ready for partners. "A consultant," Kattouf says, "can help an older OD

develop a program for bringing in a young graduate, help them analyze their situation and even discuss an exit strategy."

In short, consultants specialize in helping ODs build their practices for increased productivity and profitability, offering comprehensive consulting programs for both established and new start-up practices.

"It's not a boiler plate," Kattouf says. "Proven techniques are used when needed. They work anywhere, they're people skills."

And people skills are one of the most important things in optometry. Gailmard says, "To be truly successful, optometrists must be obsessed with customer service. I use the term 'customer' rather than 'patient' to emphasize the business aspect of service. Every successful business we know of has excellent customer service as its core philosophy and the practice of optometry is no exception. Focusing on patient satisfaction and loyalty are the key elements of success."



Richard S. Kattouf,
OD '72



Calling All Minority College Undergrads!

FOCUS ON YOUR FUTURE SUMMER PROGRAM

- Learn about the profession of optometry
- Work with current students
- Meet practicing optometrists
- Explore Chicago's Bronzeville, Chinatown, Little Italy and Greektown neighborhoods

The Focus on Your Future Summer Program at the Illinois College of Optometry is a week-long experience with ICO students, staff, faculty and alumni. Participants stay in the College's residence hall, fully immersed in the ICO environment.

Dates: Monday, July 14, through Friday, July 18, 2008

Application period: April 1 - 30, 2008

Notification: Applicants will be notified on or about May 16, 2008.

The Illinois College of Optometry is dedicated to increasing underrepresented minority student enrollment at optometry schools.

For more information, contact Teisha Johnson, Director of Admissions/Marketing, at (312) 949-7407 or tjohnson@ico.edu.

TOP 5 TIPS

for starting a practice in optometry

- 1 Have a written business plan. Starting a practice without a plan is like building a house without a blueprint.
- 2 Hire an assistant who is smart, honest and has great people skills, even if he or she doesn't have optical experience. You can always train optical skills but you can't train personality.
- 3 Keep the office open every weekday during usual business hours, even if the doctor can't be present. Patients want convenience and they want to speak to a human.
- 4 Devote enough office space and budget for a great looking optical dispensary. Even though our profession is focused on medical eye care, the public still places a high value on eyeglass services.
- 5 Don't overextend your finances. Develop a sensible budget that covers the basic needs for the practice but hold off on advanced technology until the practice generates a profit.

Source: Neil Gailmard, OD '76

EXIT STRATEGY

An exit strategy is just as important as planning a career

When one door closes, another door opens, or so the saying goes. But that doesn't always happen with the door to an optometry office. Hundreds of optometric offices close each year largely because optometrists are not properly planning for their retirement/transition, says American Optometric Association (AOA) President-Elect, Peter H. Kehoe, OD '84. They close their doors or sell out to an ophthalmology practice, leaving patients without optometric care.



On the flip side, 80 percent of recent graduates want to own their own practice, according to an AOA member survey. Debt burden from student loans, a need for a certain level of income, and a lack of suitable buy-in and buy-out opportunities keep them from doing so.

Ironically, 93 percent of established practitioners would consider a buy-in or buy-out for transitioning their practice at retirement, 77 percent are willing to help finance the sale of their practice, and 94 percent are willing to gradually transfer financial ownership of their practice to another OD, the survey found.

To help bridge that gap, the AOA is developing a practice transition program targeting retiring doctors and their potential successors. These one-day programs at regional and national optometric meetings are designed to educate ODs about how to successfully transition into or out of practice ownership. The program, "From Start to Finish—Practice Entrance and Exit Strategies," addresses such topics as conducting a needs assessment and financing obstacles, as well as legal and tax issues.

So how should an optometrist prepare for his or her inevitable retirement? "It is recommended that you start considering a practice transition when you are at your peak earning years, when the practice has the most value and potential to support a new doctor," explains Kehoe. Typically this occurs when the OD is in his or her mid-40s to mid-50s.

Keeping the practice current, such as investing in state-of-the-art equipment, will help ensure that it has value. "Too many doctors allow their practices to decline in the twilight years," he says. "They do not re-invest into the practice, so it has little value to anyone else." It is often less expensive for a young doctor to open cold versus buying an established practice that has lost its value.

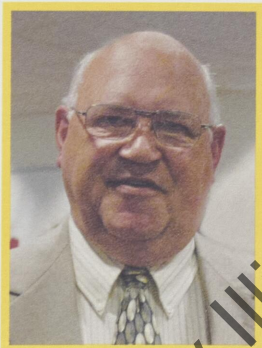
The other mistake many ODs make is that they believe the practice is worth more than it really is, says Kehoe. That is because many of them are counting on it to serve as their retirement account. It is imperative to assess a reasonable value to the practice, he stresses. Working with a financial planner and accountant can help.

— Ruth Carol

A NEW TURN

Derrald Taylor, OD '68, retires from full-time responsibilities after 40 years at ICO

ICO Matters has been kind enough to ask me to write a note regarding my many years at the College, as I retire from full-time duties and transition to my part-time role. I do so filled with emotion.



It may be easier for readers to put my retirement in perspective if they know of my background. I was raised in a humble home on a small farm in northwest Iowa, where my parents sharecropped. We had little, but we had much. I graduated in a high school class of 18, but was fortunate to have some mentoring from a leading optometrist in the Midwest, Dr. Fred Kushner, NICO '46. I entered ICO after two years of undergraduate work, not now possible. I served as senior class president and participated in as many ICO organizations as time allowed. I taught for several months before being drafted into the US Naval Reserve in 1969 and served in the eye clinic at Boston Naval Hospital for more than three years. That's where I met my wife, Nancy, who is an RN. I then returned to an ICO full-time faculty position in August, 1972, and retired from those duties June 30, 2007.

AWARDS

- 1974: Honorable Discharge, U.S. Naval Reserve
- 1989: Distinguished Service, The Illinois Chapter of the Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired
- 2001: Melvin Jones: Lions International
- 2006: 100th Anniversary Gold Medal, The Chicago Lighthouse
- 2006: Humanitarian, The Illinois College of Optometry

THE DERRALD TAYLOR LOW VISION AWARD

"Drs. Jeff Blanco and Dennis Siemsen spearheaded an award in low vision bearing my name. That is much appreciated."

I know that many colleagues my age and current students have similar backgrounds to mine, so I wish to assure those students that the hard work is worth every minute of it.

My experiences at ICO covered a gamut of duties.

I taught many courses, includ-

ing ocular anatomy labs, clinical procedure labs, low vision labs/lectures and in the clinic suites. I was director of the clinic for seven years and introduced our current filing system and a form of the current suite system we use. I was not really qualified for the job in terms of formal background, but simply worked hard and did the best I could. In this, I became exposed to the specialty area of optometry that is now called low vision, and that has had the greatest influence on my career.

Throughout my professional life, I was aided by many people and organizations and received many awards and grants for which I am grateful (see sidebars). Now I will continue to be active as a part-time faculty member at The Institute for Clinical Research Education (ICRE) and aiding at IEI as needed, and I will be a Lions member and examiner in the ISVI clinic. My experience working in the field has shown me what we can do as professionals using our knowledge base to reduce the effects of vision impairment. When I hear the phrase "full scope optometry," I am concerned it does not include those services we do for people with sight-reducing diagnoses. Diagnosis is the tip of the iceberg for low vision. With a basic understanding of psychosocial and optical and



LOW VISION DIPLOMATE

American Academy of Optometry Low Vision Diplomate: "I highly recommend this program for optometrists who wish to refine and complete their optometric knowledge of low vision services. The support of Dr. William Brown was greatly appreciated in my effort."

THE ILLINOIS SCHOOL FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED

"The Illinois School for Visually Impaired (ISVI) in Jacksonville, Ill., has played a significant role in my professional perspective on optometry. I have served on its Advisory Council for over 23 years, and continue to do so. With Dr. Richard Umsted, former superintendent of the school, and staff, and with financial support from the Lions of Illinois Foundation, we started a pediatric low vision clinic at the school in 1976. It has been held twice each year since that time. The American Optometric Association has recently awarded two annual grants to help support the ISVI clinic, and I was named the Illinois Optometric Association Optometrist of the Year, largely due to my work in low vision around the state.

"The activity at ISVI led me to securing a contract for low vision services at the Illinois Eye Institute so ICO students and residents can become familiar with serving the needs of persons with vision loss."

ocular health principles, an optometrist can change lives – and in many cases dramatically. I hope to continue to share this concept with as many students and residents who attend clinics with me, and it will remain with me as long as I can practice.

From a family perspective, my four grown children have or are in the process of graduating from college within the next year. They kept busy and focused on their work despite my frequent absences while they were growing up. I am very proud of them. My wife worked part time and maintained the household, and I could never repay her or express enough appreciation for her dedication to our entire family.

I am fortunate to be able to continue part time as I enjoy my work in low vision in particular. I thank Drs. Scharre and Daum for the continued opportunity.

Now, I look forward to a less active role at ICO, more activity with Lions and continued multidisciplinary work in low vision. But I hope to have a less hectic schedule. I have likely overlooked thanking some people, but for reasonable brevity I leave it at this. At times I try to think of everyone who has supported me in my career and with whom I have interacted, including interested students and residents who, with some extra effort, can fully realize their full clinical potential as optometrists.

ICO has been fortunate over the years to have very forward-looking administrators. This has assured a stable community that I hope continues for many years to come.

THE ILLINOIS OFFICE OF REHABILITATION SERVICES

"In contact with federal and state programs for vocationally-aged adults and seniors, and the Illinois Secretary of State's office, I was appointed to the Blind Services Planning Council of the Illinois Office of Rehabilitation Services. I also chaired the first Discovery Conference held in 1991. Since then, conferences have been held every two years with one exception. The December 2007 conference had more than 400 attendees.

"With the help of the Illinois Secretary of State's office and the acquaintance of Floyd Mizener, MCO '48, with former governor Jim Edgar, the telescope driving program for Illinois was initiated in 1985 and continues with options for some drivers to secure night driving privileges."

Keeping Busy FLOYD MIZENER JUST CAN'T QUIT

Floyd Mizener, MCO '48, may have retired, but he's busier than ever.

For starters, Mizener has a consulting company—National Vision Consultants—with partners Floyd Woods, CCO '51, and Richard Multack, OD '73, DO. They conduct practice management for optometrists regarding the vision and driving requirements in the State of Illinois. "The average practitioner knows there are standards, but they don't know them well and they don't know how to fill out the appropriate forms," he says. Mizener, who also works with municipalities across the state and the Illinois State Police, knows the standards well; he was involved in setting them.

Working with the Vision First Foundation, which promotes comprehensive eye examinations for children throughout Illinois, Mizener was involved in getting a Senate bill passed that calls for eye exams for all school-aged children.



Additionally, the former president of the Illinois Optometric Association is involved with a host of volunteer efforts. Mizener was the first chairman of the board of the Evangelical Health Foundation of Good Samaritan Hospital and on the board of the

Diecke Low Vision Center. As one of six optometrists from the ICO community, he recently went on a VOSH mission to Mexico, where the team treated 1,500 people in rural parts of the country. "Retiring has opened up my time to do more in the community," says the Lions Club member of 57 years.

While still in practice, Mizener was a solo practitioner for only the first four years of his 44-year career. Stemming from his chairmanship of the West Suburban Optometric Society's Assistance-to-Graduates Committee, he took on two partners and assisted several associates in establishing their own practices. "There are many ways to be rewarded, but if you assist others, you will find your gold and golden years happy."

— Ruth Carol

TOP 5 TIPS for retiring from a practice in optometry

- 1 Make sure you're really ready to retire. Another alternative is to hire an associate optometrist to provide most of the patient care services while the senior OD works on the management of the practice.
- 2 Work with a financial planner to determine your financial needs for retirement and how you'll meet those needs.
- 3 Obtain a professional appraisal to determine the current market value of the practice.
- 4 Determine the likely candidates to buy the practice, which could include any current associates and partners or by working with practice brokers and placement services such as those offered by ICO or the AOA. Plan ahead to allow for a smooth transition from the buyer to seller.
- 5 Work with an attorney to design a practice purchase agreement.

Source: Neil Gailmard, OD '76



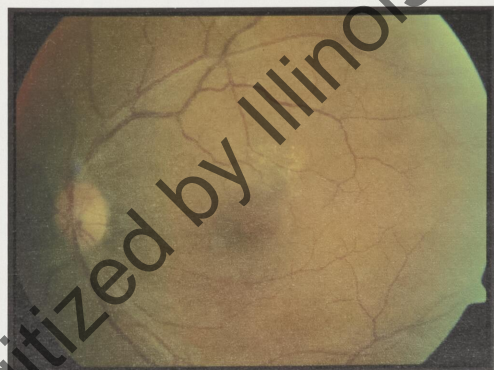
There is such a thing as good fortune. Just ask Victoria Gordon.

In January 2007, Gordon, a self-employed entrepreneur, experienced a sudden loss of vision. She was at work and noticed she was having problems seeing the transcript she was typing. The vision in her left eye was greatly distorted. Suddenly half the world was sunk in a shadowy fog. Gordon couldn't work. She could barely get around her house, let alone drive a car.

Greatly distraught, she did manage to get to an eye doctor, Dr. Len Messner, Vice President for Patient Care Services at the Illinois Eye Institute. Messner, who is also a Professor at the Illinois College of Optometry, discovered Gordon's visual acuity was 20/20 in her right eye and 20/400 in her left eye. She was diagnosed with a macular hole, a small break in the eye's light-sensitive tissue. The macula provides the sharp, central vision needed for reading, driving, and seeing fine detail.

"The biggest challenge in dealing with a macular hole is the timing of the vision loss," explains Messner. "In order to restore vision, surgical intervention within weeks of symptom onset is critical. Unfortunately, many patients do not present in a timely fashion. Fortunately, Ms. Gordon did."

Messner recommended she undergo a vitrectomy, a surgical procedure to replace the gel-like filling inside the eye and to close the hole in the macula. He referred Gordon to Dr. David Tresley, vitreo-retinal consultant for IEI.



Tresley's prognosis was good and he wanted to conduct surgery as quickly as possible. But Gordon could not afford the surgery, and she is uninsured.

Once again, time was on her side. The Eye Institute's Vision of Hope Health Alliance had recently received a grant from the State of Illinois. VOHHA is a community service program that provides comprehensive eye care services, as well as related medical referrals, for uninsured adults free of charge. "Illinois State Representative Esther Golar, who shepherded the grant to IEI, has been a huge advocate of our charitable service programs," says Messner. "In addition to doing the right thing, she realizes that not availing patients access to health care is unethical and ultimately results in a huge cost to society through loss of productivity and disability management."

When Gordon was informed she was eligible for funding that would pay for the vitrectomy, she felt as if a great weight had been lifted off her shoulders. "If I were to become blind, I would not be able to make a living," she says.

One month after being diagnosed, Gordon underwent the vitrectomy. She had to remain face down for approximately 22 hours a day the first two weeks following surgery. "You could gradually let up, but you still had to remain face down as much as possible for the next four weeks," says Gordon.

On Time TIMING PLAYS KEY ROLE IN SAVING PATIENT'S VISION



From left, Illinois State Representative Esther Golar, Dr. David Lee, Victoria Gordon, Dr. Len Messner

The next October, she had surgery for a cataract, a side effect of the vitrectomy. Gordon's vision has improved to 20/60 in her left eye, which is significant, notes Tresley.

"The doctors at the Illinois Eye Institute are a great credit to their profession," Gordon says. "They are very knowledgeable and great with people. The hospital staff is patient and very pleasant."

"I have nothing but good things to say about IEI," Gordon adds, "and nothing but good feelings about the overall experience."

Both doctors were gratified to be able to restore Gordon's vision. As Messner put it, "We are simply happy that funding was available to get Ms. Gordon the care she needed. Without treatment, she would be blind."

To support ICO's charitable services programs, contact David Korajczyk at (312) 949-7075 or dkorajczyk@ico.edu.

— Ruth Carol

Save the DATE

ALUMNI WEEKEND

September 5 – 7, 2008

ALL ALUMNI ARE WELCOME!

Looking for an excuse to get away and have some fun? Join us in the "Windy City" for three days of social events and continuing education courses designed to reconnect you with your classmates, colleagues and alma mater.

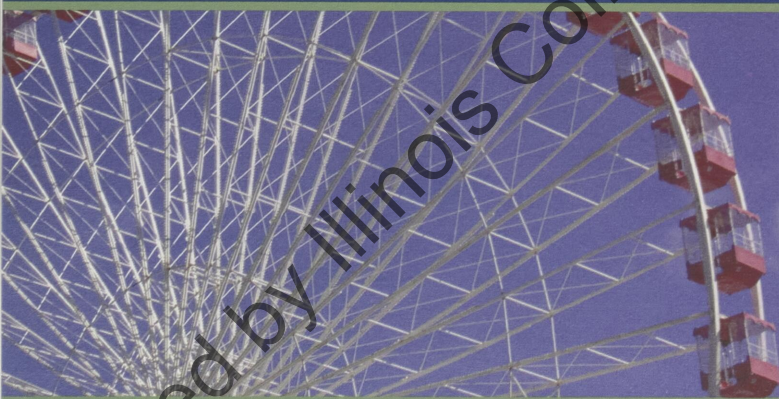
Watch for details coming soon, and check our website for updates at:
www.ico.edu

Is this a reunion year for your class?

A Class Reunion/Alumni Awards Banquet will be held Friday, Sept. 5th, at the InterContinental Chicago. Classes celebrating their reunion: 2003, 1998, 1993, 1988, 1983, 1978, 1973, 1968, 1963, 1958, 1953 and 1948.

For more information, please contact Connie Scavuzzo, Director of Alumni Relations, at 312-949-7080 or alumni@ico.edu.

Hope to see you in September!



1948

FLOYD M. MORRIS of Pikesville, Md., has been retired since 1987. He served in the U.S. Air Force in 1949 as First Optometrist and attained the rank of colonel. Dr. Morris became chief of the Biomedical Sciences Corps in 1970, and retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1972. His clinical practice spanned from 1972 to 1987; during that time he served as a staff optometrist for the Group Health Association.

HERBERT E. SMITH recently celebrated his 59th wedding anniversary with his wife, the former Alice L. Lenski of Oak Park, Ill. He also celebrated his 82nd birthday. Before retiring, Dr. Smith was an active member of the Illinois Optometric Association, serving as vice president. During his years of practice he won many honors, including "Contact Lens Man of the Year" by the National Eye Research Foundation in 1963, the first year of the award. In 1968, Dr. Smith was selected "Outstanding Optometrist in Illinois."

During World War II, Dr. Smith served as an Infantry Officer, and, in the Korean War, he was the second Commissioned Optometrist in the newly formed Army Medical Service Corps. He was recently appointed a member of The Gideons International and was also appointed as Chaplain of the American Legion Post in Normal, Ill. Dr. Smith and his wife have five children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

1954

J. TERRY SHAW of West Hills, Calif., is pleased to announce he has sold his practice and is retired.

1963

LARRY L. BRANDT of Parkersburg, Iowa, retired from 43 years of optometry practice on Sept. 1, 2006. His practice is continuing under new owners. Said Dr. Brandt, "I am enjoying a new chapter in my life titled 'RETIREMENT!' Optometry was a good profession. I enjoyed it, especially the old-fashioned traditional optometry. I never wanted to be a medical doctor; I adapted to the diagnosis and management of ocular diseases, but it was not my first love."

1966

HOWARD B. DURBIN of West Bloomfield, Mich., reports: "Thanks to ICO I have had a wonderful career. Now, I am having a wonderful and active retirement."

1969

ROBERT P. RUTSTEIN, a professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry, is a national chairman for a new NEI investigation by the Pediatric Eye Investigator Group. Recruitment for the study, "A Randomized Trial of Full-Time Bangerter Filters versus Part-Time Daily Patching for the Treatment of Moderate Amblyopia in Children," began in November 2007.

1975

RAYMOND M. GOGA of Schofield, Wis., reports that his daughter, Erin, graduated from the New England College of Optometry in 2007.

1976

JAMES DOHERTY of Round Lake Beach, Ill., recently opened his fifth office in Mundelein, Ill. He is interested in expanding through acquisitions or mergers with other eyecare practices.

1978

JAMES A. STEWART retired from practice on January 24, 2008. He writes, "Nancy and I plan to travel and stay active in our community. Please say hi to my OLD buddy Dom Maino. Our 30th class reunion will be this fall."

CLASS NOTES

1979

R. TRACY WILLIAMS has been named Optometrist of the Year in the AOA Sports Vision section.

TIMOTHY A. WINGERT has been named to the State of Missouri's Children's Vision Commission. He is one of five members appointed to the commission by the governor to develop a standardized eye examination and vision screening program for Missouri schoolchildren from kindergarten through the third grade. Dr. Wingert is an associate professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

1980

JAMES E. BUREMAN of Springfield, Mo., was reappointed in June of 2007 to the State Board of Optometry by Governor Matt Blunt of Missouri. Dr. Bureman previously served on the state board from 1991-1997.

1986

LT COL PHILIP HASLER has been selected to be the new commander of the 115th Medical Group. Dr. Hasler has been a member of the 115th Fighter Wing since 1989, after a tour as Staff Optometrist at March AFB, CA.



Since 1989, he has practiced in Reedsburg, Wis., both in private practice, and more recently with Davis Duehr Dean. After graduating from the Illinois College of Optometry, Dr. Hasler graduated from the USAF Air War College and the prestigious "Top Eye" program for military optometrists.

1987

MARK N. CHASSE of Berlin, Conn., has been selected by the Connecticut and Western Massachusetts Chapter of the American Diabetes Association (ADA) as their 2008 honoree for the 14th annual Hall of Merit Gala. Dr. Chasse is the first non MD healthcare provider to be selected by the ADA for this honor.

1988

DAN MCGEHEE has broken the world 100-mile bicycling record.



1990

DALE BARRETTE, OD, FAAO, CAPT, MSC, USN, has been deployed to the Middle East, serving in the Navy. He is sad to report that his brother Dean, also a 1990 ICO graduate, died Sept. 14, 2007.

1994

INGRYD LORENZANA gave birth to a girl on Sept. 6, 2007. Isabella Rose weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces, and was 19-inches long at birth. Baby and family are doing well.

1996

TINA BRANDONISIO gave birth on July 17, 2007, to Sara Grace Pawlikowski. Sara weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce, and was 20-inches long.

1998

PAUL B. STAUDER was selected Indiana Optometric Association 2007 Young OD of the Year.

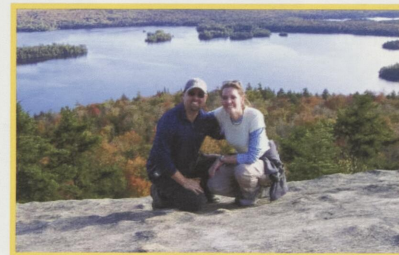
2001

GEOFFREY GOODFELLOW has been elected a Trustee of the Illinois Optometric Association.

JIM SOWINSKI,

"Just wanted to write with some great news. On October 2, I asked Danielle to marry me and she said YES!! I did it in upstate New York (Lake Placid). Attached is a link and some pictures."

www.ballooningadventures.net/occasions.asp.



2002

LORI ANN FRANCIS and **BRAD KEHLER** are proud to announce the birth of their baby boy, Vincent.



2005

SARAH MANONGDO-JOYA reports that she was featured in the November 2007 issue of *Women in Optometry* magazine. "The story is about my eBay wedding book," she writes. "Of course ICO is mentioned in the very first sentence!" Visit www.budgetweddingcenterpieces.com for more information.

2006

LENA PARK, (left) of Park Family Eye Care in North Aurora, Ill., has been shadowed by Laura Martinez, a senior at Aurora University.



CRYSTAL STRICKLER writes, "It's a Girl!" Gwendolyn Elizabeth Strickler was born on her due date, January 25, 2008. She weighed 7 lbs 2 oz., and was 20.5 inches long. "Mom, dad, and baby are doing super well." Strickler also reports her first journal publication. "It was quite a long process with many revisions, but it's official now," she says. "Enjoy reading if you're interested. The case report is in the 4th issue of the 2007 *Clinical Ophthalmology Journal*. I hope everyone is having a Happy New Year!"



1937

DON A. FRANTZ died December 3, 2007, at the age of 91. His daughter writes, "He loved Chicago and his days at the Illinois College of Optometry." Dr. Frantz was a past president of the AOA and practiced in DeKalb, Ill., until he retired many years ago.

1938

H. J. KOLLOFSKI of Fairmont, Minn., died May 22, 2006. He served in the Air Force from 1944-1946, and practiced optometry in Fairmont from 1947 through the 1990s. Dr. Kollofski served on the Minnesota State Optometric Board. He is survived by his wife Dorothy, two daughters, two sons, nine grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and a brother, Lawrence, of Ft. Myers, Fla.

1939

HARRY GREENBERG of Delavan, Wis., died November 5, 2006.

1940

SAMUEL J. COLE died on Jan. 17, 2008. He practiced optometry in Virginia until 1981 and enjoyed a long and active retirement.

SEYMOUR KUNTZ of San Diego, Calif., died September 21, 2007.

1947

VINCENT JOHN FACCHIANO, June 7, 2007

KENNETH LESEURE of Centralia, Ill., died in December of 2006. He was 82. Dr. LeSeure had served as an optometrist in Centralia for 45 years. He is survived by his wife.

GEORGE A. MCGRAHAM JR., 83, of Dixon, Ill., died November 16, 2007, after a long illness. Born May 16, 1923, he married Helen Merryman in 1954, and was an optometrist in the Sauk Valley area for more than 45 years. Dr. McGraham served with the United States Army, earning two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star in World War II. He enjoyed golfing, bowling, and baseball, and was a lifelong member of the American Legion, Gyro, and the Elks Lodge. The friends and family of Dr. McGraham remember him always with a joke to tell.

1948

JOSEPH H. BECHTOLD of Sioux Falls, S.D., died November 3, 2007. He is survived by his wife.

PIERRE E. HAVER of Plymouth, Ohio, died October 25, 2007. He practiced optometry in Plymouth for 45 years.

WILLIAM F. HILL of Simi Valley, Calif., died on August 13, 2007, at the age of 90. He is survived by his wife.

EDWARD SCHULTZ, April 16, 2007

JOHN THOMSON

ELVAN WHITELEATHER, October 23, 2007

1949

WESLEY B. ANDERSON died September 7, 2007, in Laguna Hills, Calif. He was 83. A native of Fargo, N.D., Dr. Anderson was buried at Sunset Memorial Gardens with military rites by local veterans organizations.

MORTON N. BREGMAN, February 6, 2007

R. E. DURIG of Glen Dale, West Va., died June 8, 2007. He is survived by his wife.

1949 cont.

JACK E. PENNY

ALFRED E. RAMIREZ, February 8, 2007

CHARLES E. SCHOEN, May 2, 2006

JOE H. SLEEPER, January 29, 2007

ERNEST J. SCHULTZ, of Lancaster, WI, died November 1, 2007.

1950

JOSEPH DUDLEY DOWNING, a Kentucky native who became an expatriate artist in France, has died at the age of 82. After serving in the Army during World War II, he enrolled at Western Kentucky University and studied art. A neighbor suggested Downing try optometry and offered to share a practice.

Downing earned his optometry degree from the Northern Illinois College of Optometry, where he found himself surrounded by writers, artists and actors who inspired him to simultaneously take classes at the Art Institute of Chicago.

"Gradually, bit by bit, the painting devoured the optometry," Downing had said, "and I knew I would never fit glasses." His first major one-man show in America was in 1962, at the old Art Center in Louisville, Ky. By then, he'd already had 10 one-man shows in Europe.

RICHARD H. MORGAN of Tuscon, Ariz., died January 15, 2008.

HARRY B. PORTER died April 17, 2007, at the age of 81. He retired from his optometric practice in Leavenworth, Kan. in 1987. He and his wife, Cynthia, moved to El Paso, Texas, in 1989.

ROBERT SNELLER of Hastings, Neb., died December 14, 2007.

1951

EDMUND W. BURDO, August 31, 2005

WILLIAM C. FERMAN of Claremont, Fla., died on August 31, 2007.

DONALD JOHNSON, August 24, 2007

WILLIAM J. MORTON, January 1, 2007

1953

ALBERT H. NELSON of Southfield, Mich., died September 23, 2007, of colon cancer. He practiced optometry for more than 50 years.

1955

J. R. MCLAURIN, May 31, 2005

1961

CHRISTOPHER JEAN MCCRAY died July 6, 2007, in Denver, Colo.

1974

DAVID L. ANDERSON of Rushville, Ill., died July 31, 2007.

1990

DEAN BARRETTE, September 14, 2007

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The Leadership Circle recognizes our most generous benefactors – those individuals who support the College with annual gifts of \$1,000 or more. This list reflects Leadership Circle membership through February 29, 2008.



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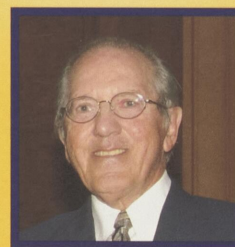
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Photo courtesy of Patrick Wilen

The Legendary Wayne Newton,

longtime patient of Harold Davis, NICO '45.

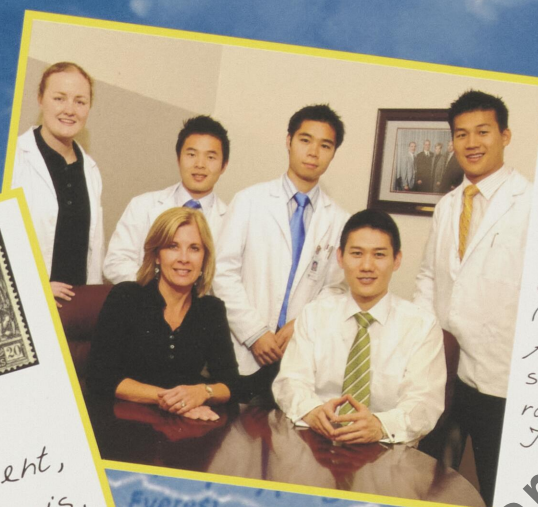


See story on page 1.

ICO Matters

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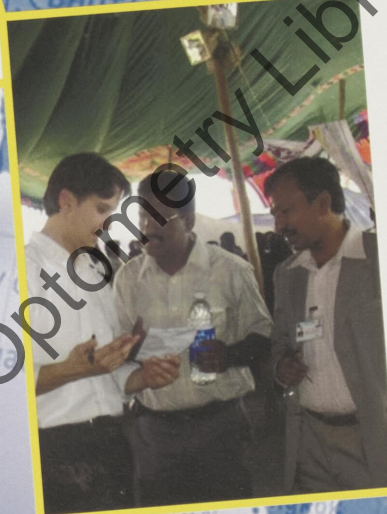
Dr. Stephanie Messher
and Tim Tsang, OD '06
(seated) with
Australian optometry
students on clinical
rotation at the
Illinois Eye Institute



JCO student,
Kevin Harris,
on JCO mission
in Haiti



Jahice Scharre,
OD '76, on a
VOSH
mission in
Mexico



Aaron Lech, OD '01,
(left) on a
mission in India



SVOSH in
El Salvador

ICO WORLDWIDE:

The College community goes global

SUMMER / 2008

AUGUST

Wednesday, Aug. 6 - Thursday, Aug. 7
Faculty Retreat

Sunday, Aug. 10 - Tuesday, Aug. 12
Orientation, Class of 2012

Wednesday, Aug. 13
Fall quarter begins

Tuesday, Aug. 19
President's Welcome and White Coat Ceremony

Saturday, Aug. 30 - Monday, Sept. 1
Labor Day Break

SEPTEMBER

Friday, Sept. 5 - Sunday, Sept. 7
Alumni Weekend

Friday, Sept. 5
Alumni Council Meeting

Class Reunion/Alumni Awards
Reception and Banquet
Reunion Classes: 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968,
1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003
*Sponsored in part by USI Midwest and
Travis-Pedersen*
InterContinental Chicago

Saturday, Sept. 6
Chicago Sightseeing Tours, Smart Business Program,
Student/Alumni Reception with Exhibitors,
Campus Tours, and Salsa Night
On campus

Sunday, Sept. 7
4 Hours of Continuing Education
Sponsored by Alcon Laboratories
On campus

Friday, Sept. 19 - Saturday, Sept. 20
ICO Exhibit Booth at the Illinois Optometric
Association Convention
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield



OCTOBER

Sunday, Oct. 5
8 Hours of Continuing Education (TQ)
On campus

Wednesday, Oct. 8
ICO Alumni Reception
Hosted by Don Bush, OD '79
Ridge Country Club, Chicago

Friday, Oct. 10 - Saturday, Oct. 11
ICO Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 21
Last Day Fall Quarter Classes/Labs

Friday, Oct. 24
ICO Alumni Reception at the AAO
Anaheim Convention Center/Marriott
Anaheim, CA

Saturday, Oct. 25
AAO, No Classes/Labs/Clinic

NOVEMBER

Monday, Nov. 24 - Tuesday, Nov. 25
First Day Winter Quarter

Thursday, Nov. 27 - Saturday, Nov. 29
Thanksgiving Break

ERRATUM:

*Mea culpa Dr. Shaw! We apologize for listing you as
J. Terry instead of J. Jerry, in the class notes section of
ICO Matters, Spring 2008.*

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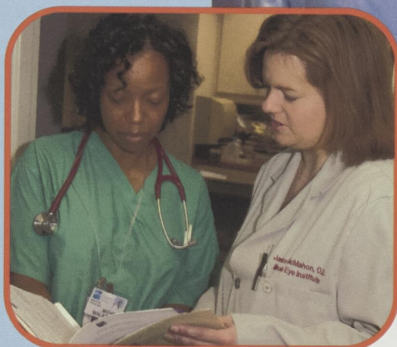
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(top) Students from Spain visited ICO this summer to work in the clinic of the Illinois Eye Institute. Their program is administered by Dr. Stephanie Messner, front row, second from right.



(left) MDs and ODs work together in the Illinois Eye Institute's ACCESS Community Health Center.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



A Message from the **PRESIDENT**

DEAR ALUMNI, COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS,

The realities of a global world are evident. Virtually all ophthalmic frames today are made in countries outside the USA. Major pharmaceutical companies, like the Swiss company, Novartis (parent to CIBA Vision), make offers to purchase US pharmaceutical companies, such as Alcon. Ophthalmic instrumentation used in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with eye and vision disorders are designed and manufactured for a worldwide market.

As much as change in the way we live and practice optometry continues to globalize, the people who make up our ICO community are increasingly having a global impact. We used to be proud that ICO alumni practiced effectively in all 50 of the United States. However,

we now celebrate ICO alumni making a difference in Austria, Canada, China, Columbia, France, Israel, and Mexico. ICO alumnus Vic Connors, OD '71, just completed a term as President of the World Congress of Optometry (WCO).

As you will read in this issue of *ICO Matters*, many ICO faculty and staff, students and alumni are actively involved in international activities. Our community is not satisfied to just watch the world shrink around it; we play a role in molding the future global village. I'm proud of this, and I think you will be too.

Arol Augsburger OD

Pictured above: Dr. Arol Augsburger discusses legislation in Washington, D.C. during the AOA's Congressional Conference in April. He spoke with Curtis Johnson, the Legislative Correspondent to Ill. Congressman, Bobby Rush. Johnson's godfather is ICO faculty member, Joe McCray, OD '75.

On the Road

New van takes glaucoma screening to the streets

The Illinois Eye Institute is proud to announce the Glaucoma Van Project (GVP), a partnership with the Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation (FCGCF).

Launched in late April, the GVP is a mobile health unit that visits key Chicago locations and events to provide free screenings for glaucoma and other eye diseases. Through the efforts of the FCGCF, more than 8,000 screenings have been held nationwide since 2001.



Senator Kwame Raoul and Dr. Arol Augsburger with the Glaucoma Van, 2008

Because of the high incidence of glaucoma among people with diabetes and hypertension, screenings also include testing for glucose and blood pressure, when possible. Approximately 170,000 individuals have been screened nationally, of which 29 percent were referred for further vision-related medical treatment. Of those referred, 14 percent displayed signs consistent with glaucoma.

IEI's van will conduct glaucoma screenings around the Chicagoland area through August 2008: two screenings per week are planned (approximately 30 total). The GVP is outfitted with state-of-the-art screening equipment and staffed by an optometrist, technicians and a driver.

Intended to raise awareness of glaucoma and the importance of eye health, the GVP is IEI's latest venture to improve ocular health in Chicago. The Illinois Eye Institute appreciates the sponsorship support of ACCESS Community Health Network and Advocate Health Care.



Graduation FESTIVITIES

Commencement festivities for 150 students began on Wednesday, May 14, with the annual Capstone fair featuring representatives from across the profession of optometry. The event continued with an awards presentation and a class banquet on the Odyssey Cruise line before students officially became ICO alumni on Sunday, May 19.

John Carroll Whitener, OD '64 (second from right in bottom right photo), who was Deputy Director of the AOA Washington office before retiring in 2007, was the featured speaker at Commencement. He urged graduates to become involved in health advocacy and community service. Over the course of his career, Dr. Whitener has been involved in virtually every optometry-related public health initiative in the United States.

A Better MOUSETRAP

ICO brings communications specialist, Harry Sweeney, on board to help spread the word about the College



"What good is a better mousetrap if you can't tell anybody about it," asks Harry Sweeney, a public relations expert on the healthcare industry, and a new member of ICO's Board of Trustees. "There's the science part of health care and the clinical work," he continues. "And there's the communications part, which is the glue that holds the whole thing together."

Sweeney would know. He has spent more than 40 years working, "in just about every facet in products and services related to eye care," he says. He started as a medical writer and rep for Lederle Labs, the former pharmaceutical division of American Cyanamid. He and his wife, Rita, bought Dorland Advertising, a travel and tourism advertising agency business that they transformed into a healthcare specialty firm and leader in the development of communications and educational programs for the eyecare field. This led to Sweeney's involvement in ocular pharmaceuticals and work for Smith, Miller & Patch, Bausch & Lomb, Barnes-Hind, CibaVision, CooperVision and Visx, among others,

For companies such as SmithKline, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Merck, Wyeth and Proctor & Gamble/Aventis, Sweeney led public information programs, and his company launched public health initiatives, such as the Health Systems Agency of Southeastern Pennsylvania. After Sweeney sold Dorland to Huntsworth, Plc of London, England, last year, he and Rita launched South Penn Square Associates, a healthcare consulting firm.

Along the way, Sweeney earned a law degree from New York University, which not only has helped him through the complications of the industry, it has facilitated his political advocacy. "I've always been involved in health communications policy," he explains. "We've testified at FDA public hearings, educated elected

officials and their staffs, and supported litigation. I'm very active now watching what's going on politically. We have to support continued healthcare innovation and public-private partnership, as well as provide access for the underprivileged. It's not an 'either or' situation; it's a very delicate balance."

Which is one reason Sweeney became a member of ICO's Board. "These are exciting times for researchers in eye care, and ICO is at the forefront of optometric education and the transfer of new ideas into practice," he says, "And, the College is involved actively in Chicago, the community. That always interests me."

So when fellow Board member and friend Rick Franz, OD '72, approached Sweeney about ICO, Sweeney was flattered. "He told me about the Board, and its desire to expand the skill set of its members," Sweeney says. "He told me about the new Strategic Plan. ICO's challenges are the kind I like."

In addition to his occupational achievements, Sweeney has lectured and written extensively, and has been an officer and board member of several professional organizations, including the American Association of Advertising Agencies, American Medical Writers Association, the Coalition for Healthcare Communication, and the Healthcare Communication & Marketing Association, among others.



My optometric odyssey has afforded me exposure to several optometric institutions: ICO (obviously), PCO, where I've been on the Dr. Irving Bennett Business and Practice Management Board for 15 years, and HCO (Houston), where I am a Benedict Professor. In my business, Kattouf Consulting Services, I have observed graduates of all of the optometric institutions, and I have the greatest respect for all optometric schools and colleges.

Having said this, it is my strong opinion that ICO graduates' clinical skills are exceptional, at the highest level in the country. Without a doubt, our program develops the best clinicians anywhere in the United States.

And we send our students and faculty out of the country to contribute their expertise. A recent VOSH/International report mentioned ICO students for the number of participants and their superior clinical skills.

Through programs such as the Vision of Hope Health Alliance and the work of faculty member, Dr. David Lee, in Chicago's Asian community, quality eye care is provided to patients who in the past neglected their eye health. ICO

faculty have also traveled to China to teach the Chinese ophthalmic community to raise its scope of practice.

ICO has several faculty as Fellows on the World Council of Optometry, and others have been ICO "ambassadors" in programs all over the world.

The opportunities for the ICO graduate both locally and internationally are unmatched.

As Chairman of the Board of Trustees, I am beaming with pride for our faculty and students for their global influence and clinical expertise.

Richard Kattouf, M.D.

Outside Perspective

ICO COMMUNITY GROWS AS IT GOES MORE AND MORE GLOBAL

Perhaps it should come as no surprise that the Illinois College of Optometry has gone global. Over the years, the student population has grown increasingly international, and our faculty and administrators have become more and more involved in optometry worldwide.

This issue of ICO Matters looks at this development and broadens the notion of a global community to include the work of students, faculty and alumni within the United States, but outside the boundaries of the College's campus.

For example, ICO students engage in a vast number of community activities, ranging from working with neighborhood children, to administering vision tests around the city, to clothing and food drives. They volunteer to work with the Special Olympics, not only braving Lake Michigan in March to raise money in a Polar Plunge, but also traveling the country to provide eye care at the national games.

As part of ICO's externship program, some fourth-year students spend time in foreign clinics and schools. Tim Tsang, OD '06, spent three months in Australia at University of Melbourne's Victoria College of Optometry. While he appreciates what he learned about the practice of optometry in another country, Tsang says, "The best thing was seeing a different culture and being in a different environment."

ICO faculty have also visited different environments, regularly traveling to lecture and learn about optometry. For example, Dr. Leonard Messner, Vice President for Patient Care Services and Executive Director of the Illinois Eye Institute, lectures as part of a series with Dr. Lorraine Lombardi and the Pennsylvania College of Optometry's International Studies Center. One of the few experts on neuro-ophthalmology in the country, Messner has visited Austria, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Poland, Berlin and Spain.

"My being out and about adds to improved international awareness of the College and the Eye Institute," Messner says. And it helps generate some of the programs that bring foreign students and optometrists to Chicago." Currently ICO hosts Australian, Spanish, and soon, Korean students, who come to the Illinois Eye Institute to work in the clinic.

"The Spanish program we've been doing here came about because I was invited to give a lecture at the Universidad Europea de Madrid," Messner says. "Those friendships led to the rotation for students. One thing led to another."

That's how it's been at ICO: one year Janice Scharre, OD '76, is appointed Working Group Chairperson of the Poland Refractive Error Study in Children (2003), the next year she's in Mexico on a VOSH mission with Alfred Rosenbloom, NICO '48, and this year she's in England on sabbatical.

Scharre's not the only one. Other examples are Janice Jurkus, OD '74, who has been an ICO ambassador on numerous occasions, including a recent trip to Scotland and Australia. Mark Colip, OD '92, just returned from Peru with Medical Wings International. Dominick Maino, OD '78, went to Ireland and Australia this year, and Yi Pang, OD, PhD, who's a member of ASCO's International Task Force, will also be attending and presenting work at the International Society for Eye Research in Beijing this fall.

Last but not least, members of the ICO community have always been active in Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH),

which was founded by an ICO alumnus (see story p. 9). And they have volunteered with other organizations to provide eye care around the world. ICO may not have a formal international studies program, but the efforts of various individuals have nonetheless given the College a new global scope, which augments the process of teaching and research here at the Illinois College of Optometry.

DR. JURKUS:

Focus on Research & Training

In December 2007, Janice Jurkus, OD '74 (pictured top left), embarked on a three-month faculty development leave in Scotland and Australia. After more than 30 years of teaching, the leave promised a chance to "recharge her batteries." She says, "This was an opportunity to see what's going on elsewhere, and then to incorporate some fresh perspectives into what we're doing at ICO."

She found key differences in optometry training in these two countries, compared to the U.S. For one thing, the students are younger. In both Scotland and Australia, students move directly from high school into four years at optometry college, bypassing the undergraduate education that American students receive. In Scotland, the educational emphasis is on research, and clinical training doesn't begin in earnest until year five — after students receive their BSc-Optometry degree. Then the Scottish optometry graduates engage in a one-year clinical training at a hospital or practice site. In Australia, clinical exposure begins somewhat earlier during the education process.

Jurkus began her sabbatical at Caledonian University in Glasgow, Scotland, where she was welcomed by department head Professor Alan Tomlinson and the research team at the Department of Optometry and Vision Science. The department produces a high volume of research; thus research budgets and protocols were the primary focus of Jurkus' explorations in Glasgow.



Dr. Len Messner (seated far right) at the Tun Hussein National Eye Hospital in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, where he and course partner, Dr. Lorraine Lombardi (front row center), presented a neuro-anatomy/neuro-ophthalmology course in 2006.

She says, "I was introduced (in Scotland) to the concept of full economic cost recovery for research." Research there operates under the premise that funding must be obtained before any research can begin. Research planning includes an exhaustive forecast of all direct and indirect costs associated with the proposed study: all staffing and salaries, physical space needs, costs for recruiting subjects, data analysis and report writing, and even travel expenses to be incurred when the research is presented later at professional meetings or to the research sponsor.

In turn, this comprehensive analysis of costs generates a detailed projection of timeline and shapes protocol guidelines. "I learned a lot about research budgeting and ways to obtain budgeting for research," she says — lessons which she and her ICO colleagues can incorporate into their own research planning.

Jurkus' experience at Caledonian University included opportunities to lecture to the third-year contact lens class about keratoconus detection and treatment, and to present to faculty and staff about the topic of orthokeratology. This was not the first time this ICO professor has taught abroad; in past years, she has lectured in China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Israel, Poland and Scotland — primarily through her affiliation with the International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE).

In fact, Jurkus' role as an executive board member of IACLE drew her from Scotland to Sydney, Australia, where IACLE maintains a secretariat office.

"In Australia I had the opportunity to work with the education team of IACLE at the University of New South Wales," Jurkus says. Chief among IACLE's missions is to improve the quality of contact lens teaching worldwide through development of new educational resources. While in Australia, Jurkus partnered with IACLE's manager of international education, Lew Williams, to develop a series of interactive case reports that utilize computer- and internet-based tools to facilitate learning in remote locations.

Despite heavy investment upfront of time and resources to develop each case report, Jurkus contends that the interactive format can become a powerful and cost effective teaching tool for international reach.

Jurkus' travels included a site visit in Melbourne, Australia, to the Victoria College

of Optometry and the University of Melbourne Department of Optometry and Vision Science. ICO maintains an externship/student exchange program with these schools.

Jurkus brought back to ICO new insights about optometric education. Among them:

- International education respects and sometimes envies the U.S. education system.
- Research takes a team to do well, and budgeting for research should include all ancillary expenses.
- Educational challenges are similar in various parts of the world.
- We have many, many great things at ICO. It is a good place to be.

DR. PANG:

Sharing Resources Internationally

Yi Pang, OD, PhD, examined global aspects of optometric education without traveling abroad. As a member of the recently formed International Task Force of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO), Pang is part of a U.S. team exploring the challenge: What can U.S. schools do to help international optometry schools?

The first step in addressing this challenge was to assess the current presence of U.S. schools within the context of global optometry. Pang developed and conducted a survey of the 17 U.S. optometry schools to measure their involvement in foreign student exchanges, faculty exchanges/guest lecturers, and international research. Survey findings showed that ICO ranks among the top third of schools in terms of its international reach. ICO, for example, draws a notable percentage of students from Canada.

The survey laid important groundwork. "Because of this survey, ASCO changed its mission to include a stronger international focus," says Pang.

International exchange within education, research and clinical work is important to all parties involved. Pang explains, "Education needs exchange. Communication with other countries can give us better ideas and a wider perspective."

She notes that the field of optometry in the U.S. is in many ways, "a more mature discipline" than in other countries. ODs in the U.S. are licensed to see more complicated cases and to perform more advanced diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, compared



to their eyecare counterparts in many countries. In Australia, for example, optometrists are not considered independent doctors, she says. In China, optometry is a relatively new field compared to ophthalmology, and its parameters are not yet well defined. In Germany, optometry students cannot use eye drops to dilate the eye, "so a student coming to ICO from Germany has the opportunity to view the back of the eye after dilation, which affords more detailed learning," says Pang.

In turn, Australia, Japan and many European countries offer more intensive research opportunities. U.S. students or faculty who travel to these countries benefit from broader research insights.

A native of China, Pang partnered last year with optometrists in China and locally to co-author a paper on preventing progression of adult-onset myopia. The paper was named the 2006 "best journal article" by *Optometry and Vision Development*.

Pang intends to pursue her study of international optometry practices and hopes to gain first-hand knowledge of international practices through future opportunities to lecture and provide clinical care in other countries. She says, "Sharing of ideas with other countries is important. Students who come here learn a lot, and we learn when we go abroad."

— Michelle Rapaport

AROUND THE WORLD

Thanks to an ICO graduate, underserved communities around the world get eye care



A young man who has aphakia comes to the eye clinic in Casablanca, Morocco, set up by Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity, or VOSH/International. His lenses had been removed because of cataracts when he was a child, but they were not replaced with plastic intraocular lenses that would enable him to see distances. The optometrist finds a very high prescription pair of glasses out of the donated pile.

"This patient was in his early twenties and hadn't been able to see clearly since he was a toddler," recalls Tracy Matchinski, OD '95, Chief of Low Vision Rehabilitation Services at ICO. "He came in the clinic guided by a friend, and he was able to walk out by himself."

It was a simple optometric service and a pair of glasses. "Things we wouldn't think twice about here. Like replacing his lenses with implants or giving people reading glasses when they reach their 40s and 50s...makes such a huge difference for people in other countries where they can't get that kind of

care," says Matchinski, who has gone on seven VOSH/International missions.

Alfred Rosenbloom, NICO '48, former ICO Dean and President, has also been in Morocco. He recalls the time a bus brought the entire Moroccan school for blind children to the VOSH site for low vision evaluation. As a result, many children were able to enter a regular classroom. "That was indeed a joyful experience!" Rosenbloom says.

VOSH/International began when ICO graduate Franklin Harms, NICO '50, founded VOSH-Kansas. He dedicated it to the provision of eye and vision care services for those below poverty level and without access to local eye care. Harms particularly felt the need to provide free eye care to impoverished communities in developing countries. "Even as a student, Dr. Harms was a serious and able individual; a role model to be followed," says Rosenbloom. VOSH-Kansas grew into VOSH-Interstate, which included chapters from several surrounding states. In the early 1970s, the latter became VOSH/International.

If Harms had not passed away in 1978, he would have seen VOSH/International grow to become the parent organization of 35 regional chapters and 24 student chapters at schools and colleges of optometry in the United States, Ecuador, Peru, and El Salvador.

Each year, VOSH chapters average 75 missions serving in excess of 150,000 people, notes Rosenbloom, who has been an active member for more than 25 years. Currently serving on the VOSH-Illinois board, he also served as Vice-President of VOSH/International for four years and President of VOSH-Illinois for two years. He was named the VOSH Humanitarian of the Year in 2007. "For me," Rosenbloom says, "VOSH provides a great humanitarian experience. It is rewarding to provide vision care and correction to so many underprivileged individuals, many who have a desperate need for such care."

EYE ON PATIENTS

Since its inception, VOSH teams have cared for more than two million patients. VOSH volunteers have traveled to Morocco, Swaziland, Transylvania, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Vietnam, Costa Rica, Haiti, Ecuador, and Tunisia, to name a few. According to Rosenbloom, destinations are often repeated to a locale where the infrastructure has been established. "Local hosts set up the exam site and our housing. They secure translators and provide lunches so we can work throughout the day," he says.

Work days are at least eight hours long, says Rosenbloom, who has been on more than 25 missions with his wife, Sarah. The typical trip lasts five to six days, with a few days thrown in for sightseeing. The approximately 30-member team sees, on average, 1,500 to 2,000 patients per mission.

The volunteer optometrists perform examinations, including refractions, and supplemental diagnostic tests when indicated. They also treat eye disease. Team members dispense eyeglasses that VOSH collects from many sources, including the Lions Clubs and churches. These donated glasses are cleaned, neutralized, and categorized for use on missions.

To date, VOSH has established 13 permanent eye clinics in Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Haiti, and Mexico. Permanent sites provide a base location from which missions can be conducted. These sites are also used for training local individuals to conduct vision screenings and detect vision impaired children in pre-school and first grade. "As a result, there has been an increased awareness of children's vision problems and the need for thorough vision care," notes Rosenbloom.

Additionally, VOSH has set up clinics in disaster areas such as Bosnia, El Salvador, Honduras, Dominican Republic, and India. VOSH teams have treated hurricane victims in Houston and New Orleans, as well.

VOSH chapters involve optometrists, opticians, and other volunteers, the latter of whom serve as support personnel. All pay their own expenses to participate in missions. The other volunteers include students who have carved out their own VOSH niche by establishing Student VOSH (SVOSH).

"SVOSH came about because we recognized the need for younger, active members to replace those who were leaving their practices," explains Rosenbloom. "They bring new ideas and energy, and they can benefit from a humanitarian experience. It also provides the students with exposure to different cultures as well as diverse eye conditions, including pathology involving ocular and systemic diseases."

Second-year student, Michelle Zickel, became a member of SVOSH her first year of school, after going on a medical mission to South Africa when she

was an undergraduate student. "When I came to ICO, I knew I wanted to become active in SVOSH," says the ICO SVOSH President. Zickel says there are more than 300 ICO SVOSH members.

Typically students become a member of SVOSH and work toward a mission, which they go on their third year. "That's when they have clinical experience and their schedules are a little less restricted," she explains.

Meanwhile, they must put in 40 hours of service in order to receive partial reimbursement for the trip. Service hours can be spent doing fundraising or participating in local missions. Fundraising efforts include selling clinic guides to ICO students, participating in letter writing campaigns, and holding the annual SVOSH eyeglass frame sale. Service hours can also be spent neutralizing glasses, figuring out prescriptions, and packaging glasses to be sent to various mission locations.

Last year, 50 students went on international VOSH missions, and many more participated in local missions, including one to a homeless shelter in Joliet, Ill., sponsored by VOSH-Illinois. "We usually get invited to go on several of the mission trips," Zickel says. "There's a high demand for ICO students because they love the knowledge we have." In addition to service, students also usually incur expenses ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,000, depending on their amount of fundraising reimbursement.

"It's definitely a commitment," Zickel adds. "But you feel like you're doing something so meaningful." She is looking forward to her Honduras mission slated for February, 2009.

Matchinski, who is the faculty advisor for SVOSH and President-Elect of VOSH-Illinois, concurs. "It's important to use the skills and talents you have to give back to others," she says. "As optometrists it is relatively easy to do, but it makes such a big impact on people. They can walk away from the clinic being able to read again, see better at a distance, or just leave with a nice pair of sunglasses because the sun near the equatorial region is very bright."

As Rosenbloom said when he quoted Sir Winston Churchill upon acceptance of his VOSH Humanitarian Award: "We gain a living by what we get; we gain a life by what we give."



Janice Scharre, OD '76, and Alfred Rosenbloom, NICO '48, on a VOSH mission in Mexico



VOSH in Mexico



VOSH in Mexico

To learn more about VOSH/International, visit its website at www.vosh.org.

To contact VOSH-Illinois, email ilvosh@yahoo.com.

Cause for Hope

AARON LECH'S MISSIONS TO RURAL INDIA CHANGE BOTH HIS LIFE AND THE PATIENTS HE TREATS



"It's humbling. It's life-changing," says Aaron Lech, OD '01, of his three medical missions to Chillakallu, India. For the past five years, Lech and colleagues have been providing eye care to thousands of people in a remote and impoverished area of India, home to one-sixth of the world's population.

First inspired to go to Chillakallu by his father, who taught there with a faith-based organization, Lech set off on the inaugural mission trip with minimal supplies. That was January of 2003, and he and colleagues there treated 450 patients in five days. "We thought that was great," he says. "But when we went to close down, we had a little riot. So the second time we had to make sure some national guard people were around."

Twenty-five percent of India's people live at or below the nation's poverty line of 40 U.S. cents per day. Eighty percent of its population lives on less than \$2 a day. For some, a visit to an American-run eye clinic is actually their first visit to a doctor of any kind.

Together with Hope for India, a non-profit humanitarian organization based in Upstate New York, Lech and his team from ClearVue Eye Care in Roseville, Calif., have restored and protected the vision of the villagers of Chillakallu and the surrounding southern region of Andhra Pradesh.

In 2006, he and colleagues returned with more supplies and financial resources to employ local ophthalmologists and clinics in their work. They saw 2,700 patients in five

days. "We exceeded most of the things we had brought or had the means to pay for, which included 600 pairs of glasses and 200 cataract surgeries," Lech says. "The second time around we had more infrastructure: more translators, hired technicians from local hospitals. It was amazing."

While Americans who suffer from low vision or no vision usually have government support if not some kind of employee benefit, people in agrarian societies fare much worse: a farmer can't see the pests eating his crops and loses his livelihood. The illiterate woman with operable cataracts who sorts rice from rocks

“ So we made her an exact prescription and for the first time in her life she saw her mom's face without having to be an inch away ”

One of his most touching memories was helping a 10-year-old girl who was so nearsighted she had to hold her hand an inch from her face just to see it. "So we made her an exact prescription and for the first time in her life she saw her mom's face without having to be an inch away," says Lech. "The smile on her face and the tears in her mother's eyes had an incredible impact on me."

In October of last year Lech, two other American doctors, and an Indian ophthalmologist saw 5,100 patients in four days. They managed to pay for 540 cataract surgeries at \$26 an eye. They custom-made 1,100 pairs of glasses and brought with them and distributed 500 pairs of reading glasses. With the help of donations from donors such as Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, Alcon, Allergan, B&L surgical and others, they distributed \$150,000 in supplies and spent \$25,000 in cash on the mission.

"We experimented this last time with a web campaign, and we raised close to \$4,000 from that drive alone," Lech says. "I can talk about the numbers and get very excited about it, but when you're there and see the constant need, you realize it's just a drop in the bucket."

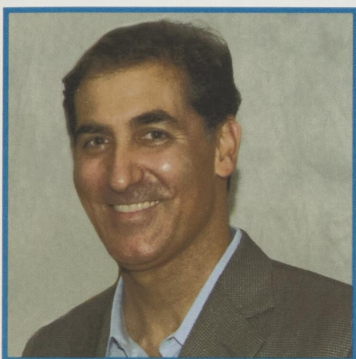
all day misses an occasional rock that causes someone else tooth pain or an abscess or a serious infection. People in India suffer with cataracts longer and with greater disability than do Americans. These missions are a way of giving back, says Lech, who is in private practice.

"It's always challenging to come back to the States and walk back into private practice," he says. "You see how much you have. It helps me realize that the complaints and the issues that I have in my life here melt in comparison with what I encounter in India. It's very centering."

— Susan Soric

For more information on Lech's missions, visit:
www.clearvue.org/medicalmissions.php





Alumni Weekend is coming September 5 - 7, and you are invited! Make plans to attend. You'll enjoy the fabulous city of Chicago, and renew relationships with friends and fellow alumni. On Friday, Sept. 5, we're planning the class reunion and alumni awards reception, banquet and hospitality suite at the InterContinental Chicago. On Sunday, we have Continuing Education, and in between we're scheduling a roster of events for you to enjoy. Hope to see you in September.

On another note, have you visited the excellent ICO website lately? Go to the College's homepage at www.ico.edu. Among the wealth of information there, you can take a virtual tour of campus, make comments to the alumni office and send personal news – the College wants to hear from you. And in the near future, you will find a new online alumni directory.

As always, thank you for your continual support of the Illinois College of Optometry Alumni Association. And thank you to all the alumni and friends that currently support the College with annual gifts.

Robert L. Grazian, OD '82

Robert L. Grazian, OD '82
President, ICO Alumni Council

ICO Community Kudos

Steven A. Levin, OD '73, has been inducted into the National Academies of Practice. Levin was one of seven optometrists from all over the U.S. to become part of the prestigious Academy. He has practiced in Whiting, Ind., for more than 34 years.



Shelley Wu, OD '01 of Manteca, Calif., was named 2007 Young Optometrist of the Year by the California Optometric Association. She was honored for her contributions to organized optometry, her local optometric society, the Alameda Contra Costa Counties Optometric Society (ACCCOS), and to her community. Wu currently practices at Central Valley Eye Medical Group in Manteca and Stockton.



Larry Van Daalen, OD '87, has been elected president of the Iowa Optometric Association. He is pictured here with ICO President, Dr. Arol Augsburg, at the IOA convention this year.



Pete Kehoe, OD '84, was named AOA president at Optometry's Meeting in Seattle this year. He practices in Galesburg, Ill.



Mike Horstman (left) and Jim Kesteloot (right), were recognized at ICO's alumni reception at the AOA meeting in June. Horstman was named president of the International Association of Optometric Executives, and Kesteloot received the Apollo Award, the AOA's highest honor for a non-optometrist.

ICO President, **Dr. Arol Augsburg**, received the American Optometric Association's prestigious Distinguished Service Award at the AOA meeting in June. Of the citation he said, "The effectiveness of my efforts has only been possible in states that were committed to leadership and positive change in optometry. Through combined efforts, the public has benefited by substantial change in the way optometric care is delivered to the American public. I'm proud to have had you all in partnership for these important accomplishments."

This year, Augsburg also became President of Rotary One, the oldest Rotary Club in the world.

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2008

Schedule of Events

ALL ALUMNI ARE WELCOME! Hotel Information: A block of rooms will be held until August 20th at the InterContinental Chicago located at 505 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. ICO has contracted a discounted group rate of \$229.00 (Main Building) and \$259.00 (Historic Tower) for our alumni and guests. To make reservations, call 312-944-4100 or 800-628-2112 and use participant code "Illinois College of Optometry" for the special ICO group rate.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Sponsored in part by USI Optometric and Travis-Pedersen



- 6:00 - 7:30 pm** **Class Reunion and Alumni Awards Reception**
Classes featured: 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2003
Toledo Room - InterContinental Chicago
- 7:30 - 10:00 pm** **Class Reunion and Alumni Awards Banquet**
Renaissance Room - InterContinental Chicago
- 10:00 pm - 12:00 am** **Alumni Hospitality Suite**
Burnham Room - InterContinental Chicago

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Shuttle service is available to and from hotel and campus. Transportation will be provided from campus for all *Experience Chicago!* Sightseeing Tours.

- 8:30 - 10:00 am** **50 Year Club Breakfast**
Valencia Room - InterContinental Chicago
(By Invitation Only)
- 11:30 am - 1:00 pm** **Donor Recognition Luncheon**
Valencia Room - InterContinental Chicago
(By Invitation Only)
- 1:30 - 4:00 pm** ***Experience Chicago!* Sightseeing Tours**
Choose from:
Chicagorolley Tour, Architectural Riverboat Tour, or The Art Institute of Chicago
- 1:30 - 4:00 pm** **Smart Business Program**
Recent Graduate Panel
Lecture Center - ICO Campus
- 4:00 - 6:00 pm** **Student/Alumni Reception with Exhibitors, Campus Tours, Raffle Prizes**
Gymnasium - ICO Campus

5:00 - 6:00 pm

Leadership Circle Reception with President Augsburger

President's Office - ICO Campus
(By Invitation Only: featuring hors 'd oeuvres, State of the College remarks and photos with Dr. Arol Augsburger)

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Salsa Night!

Southwestern Dinner Buffet with Margarita Cantina and Salsa Dancing
Courtyard - ICO Campus

8:00 pm - ? am

Unscheduled time for you to celebrate downtown with your colleagues and/or family

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Four hours of Non-CEE (non-tested) continuing education credit will be offered. All courses are COPE approved.

7:00 - 8:00 am

Continental Breakfast and Sign-in

Lecture Center, ICO Campus

8:00 - 9:40 am

Update on Instrumentation Utilized for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Glaucoma

Thomas J. Landgraf, OD '88, FAAO

9:40 - 10:00 am

Refreshment Break

10:00 - 11:40 am

To BV or Not to BV: VT in the Primary Care Office

Dominick M. Maino, OD '78, MEd, FAAO, FCOVD-A

11:50 am - 1:00 pm

Campus Tours

Educational Programs sponsored in part by Alcon Laboratories

Alcon

PARTNER IN EDUCATION

REGISTRATION FORM ALUMNI WEEKEND: SEPTEMBER 5 – 7, 2008

Also available on-line at www.ico.edu/alumni/alumniweekend2008.html

Name _____

Guest _____

Address _____
(Circle one: home/work)

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

(Circle one: home/work/cell)

Class of _____

REGISTRATION OPTIONS: For your convenience there are two options available to register for events. Select from the packages below (and be sure to choose from the options within each package) OR register à la carte. Please submit your registration form with payment by August 20th.

Register by Mail: Illinois College of Optometry
Attn: Alumni Office
3241 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60616

Register by Phone: 312-949-7080

Register by Fax: 312-949-7683

Register On-Line: www.ico.edu/alumni/alumniweekend2008.html

PACKAGE #1:**Weekend Event Package (all 3 days):****OD: \$155.00****Non-OD Guest: \$125.00**

Yes, register me for this package:

_____ #ODs

_____ #Non-OD Guests

Group Sightseeing Options:

(choose one for each registrant)

- ☐ Chicago Trolley Tour
☐ Architectural Riverboat Tour
☐ Chicago Art Institute
 Or ☐ Smart Business Program

PACKAGE #2 :**Friday/Saturday Event Package:****OD: \$125.00****Non-OD Guest: \$125.00**

Yes, register me for this package:

_____ #ODs

_____ #Non-OD Guests

Group Sightseeing Options:

(choose one for each registrant)

- ☐ Chicago Trolley Tour
☐ Architectural Riverboat Tour
☐ Chicago Art Institute
 Or ☐ Smart Business Program

PACKAGE: #3**Saturday/Sunday Event Package:****OD: \$90.00****Non-OD Guest: \$60.00**

Yes, register me for this package:

_____ #ODs

_____ #Non-OD Guests

Group Sightseeing Options:

(choose one for each registrant)

- ☐ Chicago Trolley Tour
☐ Architectural Riverboat Tour
☐ Chicago Art Institute
 Or ☐ Smart Business Program

À LA CARTE REGISTRATION:**Friday, September 5th**

_____ **Class Reunion/Alumni Awards Reception, Banquet, and Alumni Hospitality Suite**

6:00 pm – 12:00 am, InterContinental Chicago,
\$75.00 per person

Saturday, September 6th

_____ **Experience Chicago! Sightseeing Tours**

1:30 – 4:00 pm, Transportation Provided from ICO,
\$25.00 per person

Options:

- ☐ Chicago Trolley Tour ☐ Architectural Riverboat Tour
☐ Chicago Art Institute Or ☐ Smart Business Program

_____ **Student/Alumni Reception with Exhibitors, Raffle Prizes, and Campus Tours**

4:00 – 6:00 pm, ICO Gymnasium, Complimentary/No Charge

_____ **Salsa Night! (Southwestern Buffet, Margarita Cantina, and Salsa Dancers)**

6:00 – 8:00 pm, ICO Courtyard, \$50.00 per person

Sunday, September 7th

_____ **Four Hours of Continuing Education (non-tested)**

8:00 - 11:40 am, ICO Lecture Center,
\$50.00 Alumni/\$100.00 Non-Alumni

PAYMENT OPTIONS:**NEW OPPORTUNITY TO SPONSOR A STUDENT!**

_____ Yes, I would like to *sponsor a student* to attend Salsa Night! on campus on Saturday, September 6th, by adding **\$50.00** per sponsored student to my total payment.

Total Amount Paid: _____

☐ **Check Enclosed.** Please make checks payable to Illinois College of Optometry. By sending your check to us, you authorize the Illinois College of Optometry to convert your check into electronic funds transfer. Please be aware that your bank account may be debited as soon as the same day we receive your payment.

☐ **Credit Card:** Visa MasterCard Discover

Card # _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Date _____

For additional information, contact Connie Scavuzzo, Director of Alumni Relations, at 312-949-7080 or alumni@ico.edu.

EYE ON FACULTY: A GENTLE MAN - DR. DICK TENNANT

The E. Richard Tennant Scholarship Endowment was established to support student scholarship. This year, one student was awarded \$1,500. Call (312) 949-7075 for more information.



So many members of the ICO community were touched by Dr. E.R. Tennant when he was on faculty at the College. To mark the 20th anniversary of his death, we asked you to send memories of Dr. Tennant. Here are the sentiments we received. Some have been edited for space or clarity.

Thank you Dr. Tennant,

Thank you. These two words have not been said enough to Dr. E. Richard Tennant! Thank you for mentoring me in optometric education, a position that I have enjoyed for over 32 years.

Thank you, Dr. Tennant, for teaching me the value of treating students as equals in the academic arena. You taught me that education is not about making students learn, but allowing students to learn.

Thank you, Dr. Tennant, for believing that I had the ability to teach optics. I do not know what you saw in me, but because of you I have tried to do my very best to help students not only understand optics as it relates to clinical practice, but to use optics to improve patient outcomes. At times I was frustrated with teaching optics, but in 1986, Dr. Tennant told me to be myself, not to copy what others have done, but to bring my own perspective and always be honest with students. Dr. Tennant was always the teacher, and he led by example.

Thank you, Dr. Tennant for teaching me that one person cannot know all there is to know about optics, but one should know how to search for answers and learn from the experience. Thank you Dr. Tennant for conveying this in your lectures with knowledge, style, grace, dignity, and humor.

It has been over 20 years since I last talked with Dr. Tennant. Although I am getting older, I still love what I am doing. Thank you Dr. Tennant, for giving me the opportunity to follow the path you created. You are in my thoughts and I am in your debt. There are very few in academics that can be defined as true "teachers" and Dr. Tennant is at the top of the list.

Neil Hodur, OD '75

HOMAGE TO A GENTLE MAN, By Joseph C. Phillips, OD '59

I admired and revered Dr. Tennant, who touched my life with such grace that even after all these years, I am still thankful.

Dr. Tennant was a Jewish physician who escaped the Nazis in Austria. When he arrived in America, he landed in New Orleans. He spoke no English. Because he wasn't allowed to work as a physician in America, he instead became a dockworker. It was there, on the docks, he learned English.

After he became proficient in English he still wasn't allowed to take his medical boards, so he went to optometry school. Eventually Dr. Tennant became Clinic Director at Illinois College of Optometry, where he also taught the first year course in geometric optics.

Most people would agree that geometric optics is a difficult subject, but not for Dr. Tennant. He was a spellbinding lecturer who would begin his lectures and in what seemed like a mere five minutes he would step off the dais, turn and walk out of the room; class was over. I remember being amazed to look at the clock and see the second hand going by the hour, the exact second the class was supposed to end.

He was tall and stately, about six-one. His face was thin, his hair salt and pepper. His most distinctive feature, to me, was his hands, which were long-fingered and graceful, like those of a concert pianist. In fact, everything about Dr. Tennant was graceful, genteel, and cultured. He spoke in heavily accented English but there was no effort involved in understanding every single word he spoke.

In 1959, at 22 years old and in the last semester of my senior year, I was one of the youngest students to graduate from ICO. As one might expect from someone so young, I was supremely confident and sure of myself. I excelled, I thought, in doing exams at the clinic and was very good at eliciting quick responses from my patients.

Typically, we were given an hour-and-a-half to do an exam. When we were finished we took our findings to

a staff doctor for review. The two of us would then write the patient's prescription.

One day at the clinic, just weeks before graduation, I quickly finished examining an intelligent and responsive patient and took my findings for consultation to the staff doctor who, that day, was Dr. Al Bifano. Dr. Bifano didn't believe a good exam could be given so quickly and he proceeded to inform me of that fact, letting me know in no uncertain words I couldn't possibly have done the patient case history and all 21 points in 20 minutes. He marched into the examining room to check my findings. After about five minutes with the patient, I felt Dr. Bifano was bad mouthing me, and this made me angry.

Dr. Bifano was a small man, and I was a strong, strapping farm boy. I'm ashamed to say I became incensed with the unfairness and perceived badmouthing to my patient. Dr. Bifano turned and left the room. A few minutes later, over the loudspeaker, I heard the voice of Dr. Tennant, "Dr. Feelips, please come to Dr. Tennant's office."

I stepped into Dr. Tennant's office to see Dr. Bifano standing at the side of Dr. Tennant's desk. Dr. Bifano glared at me, visibly angry, his face red and scowling. Dr. Tennant calmly sat behind his desk, his long-fingered hands in a prayer-like position, the fingertips of one hand touching the fingertips of the other, gently and rhythmically tapping together, apart, together, apart, together. Dr. Tennant turned to Dr. Bifano and said, "Is zat all, Dr. Beefano?"

Dr. Bifano turned abruptly and left, closing the door behind him. Dr. Tennant looked at me for what seemed a very long time, his hands still in that prayer-like position, fingertips thoughtfully tap, tap, tapping.

I was scared. I knew I was in trouble. Dr. Tennant had the power to destroy my career, throw me out of school or at the least make me take the entire year over again.

Finally he said, "Dr. Feelips, I vud not like to be 21 again for all zee tea in China. Zat is all. You're excused."

EYE ON FACULTY: A GENTLE MAN - DR. DICK TENNANT

Dr. E. R. Tennant

There are so many experiences and people in the ICO tapestry that were pivotal in the careers of so many. One of the most memorable people during my time at the college, from being a student, resident and faculty member, was Dr. Tennant. I remember as if it was yesterday when he stopped his discussion of some optical concept, turned and looked directly at us, and said: "Boys and girls, you must always remember that the people you see are more than eyeballs. We don't walk out to the waiting room and say, 'Next eye in!' We treat the whole person, with compassion and integrity each and every time." With his dry humor and wisdom he impacted my career beyond measure. He encouraged my decision to enter a residency program, welcomed me as a young faculty and was always there to lend an ear when needed. Even today, I embrace his spirit, integrity and memory as I apply myself to our profession and the future of our profession, our students. He was and still is a role model extraordinaire.

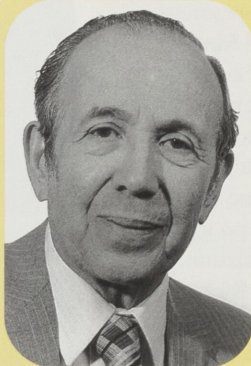
Sunny M. Sanders, OD '78, FAAO
Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs,
Eye Care Center
Assistant Professor
Southern California College of
Optometry

Thank you for the opportunity to express my appreciation for having experienced Dr. Tennant during my years at ICO.

The ultimate professional, Dr. Tennant demonstrated great respect and appreciation for not only his fellow faculty but, without exception, for his students as well. His patience, his humor, his way with words, the twinkle in his eye - Dr. Tennant made his classes a delight even when the material may not have been. While many faculty may be appreciated, few are truly remembered with affection.

Dr. Tennant will always be remembered as someone special.

Carol Marusich, OD '81, MS, FCOVD



I am not a good writer but he was a TEACHER and what is known as a "class act." His wife, Shelby, was also outstanding and Barbara and I are very happy we were able to have spent time with them both.

Howard Woolf, OD '67

One day we were complaining about the long hours in class and clinic. Ernie (as we called him) said, "If you don't like this, you shouldn't be doing it!" Best advice and teacher I ever had.

James A. Darling, OD '69,
Galena, IL

My friendship with Dick Tennant goes back to 1955, when Northern Illinois College of Optometry and Chicago College of Optometry merged to become the Illinois College of Optometry. Dr. Tennant's faculty service, by every standard of excellence was without peer.

He was generous and gracious to his faculty colleagues and to his students, whom he taught with great vigor and skill. They named him "Teacher of the Year" so often that it almost became an ICO tradition. More than 25,000 students have known his intellectual zest, personal integrity, thorough grasp of subject specialties, unique lecture style, enthusiasm for optometry as a fulfilling career, and his personal qualities of compassion, quiet humor and affability.

One of my favorite stories about Dr. Tennant comes from his usual 8 a.m. class in geometrical optics. One day, a student was talking during the lecture. Dick noticed and stopped speaking for about 10 seconds. The classroom turned to complete silence. Dick said, "Now John," or whatever the fellow's name, "if you don't pay attention, I'm going to tell your mother."

The class broke up in laughter; the student got the message.

To capture the totality of an individual as rich and many-sided as Richard Tennant is virtually impossible. Just as he had great respect for the learner, so his colleagues and innumerable former students regarded him with profound respect and admiration.

Dick Tennant was very special. As Sir Isaac Newton said, "If I have seen further, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants." Dr. Tennant is, for us, such a giant.

Alfred Rosenbloom, NICO '48
Former ICO Dean and President

All teachers should know the influence they have on the rest of the LIVES of their students. I have been fortunate enough to have had three help me get where I am today. Each instilled a self-confidence that I needed at just the right time. My mother used to tell me I was a lucky person and my wife believes the same.

In college, a teacher I regarded highly encouraged me simply by saying I had the ability to make something of myself. I applied to ICO. Though I was never the greatest student, I could learn things that were taught, especially if it came to numbers.

Optics came easy for me until second semester. I had only spoken to Dr. Tennant once in private previously, when I asked him for a recommendation for a scholarship (which I got). I was struggling in second semester optics, and no one could have known what it was doing to my self-confidence. We got our midterm back and I did so poorly I feared the consequence of failing the course.

But after reviewing the test, Dr. Tennant did something I will never forget. He asked a question which had nothing to do with optics but that combined logic and mathematics. I figured the answer in my head while everyone was beginning to write calculations down on paper. I looked around and saw everyone with their heads down and hands at work. Dr. Tennant looked at me, as if to say "Well?" So I raised my hand and gave him the answer. He said, "I knew you could do it." I think I got a C in that class but probably deserved less.

Confidence restored, I continued on my journey to where I am today: happy and grateful to all the people that helped me get here. Dr. Tennant was not only a good teacher, he was a good man.

Ray Goga, OD '75



EYE ON FACULTY: A GENTLE MAN - DR. DICK TENNANT

I'm pleased to submit my thoughts on Dr. Tennant, even though I was never an optometry student and, in fact, called him "Richard" from my childhood on. My mother and Mrs. Tennant - Shelby - met in 1949 or '50 as residents in an apartment building on Fairfield Avenue in Chicago. I'm sure they were amazed, as their friendship grew, that each had gotten married on exactly the same date, Nov. 24, 1948. Soon their husbands had become very good friends and, as I got to be 3 or 4 or 5 years old, Richard became my friend too. As I have often discussed with Shelby, no adult treated me with the respect and genuine interest that Richard showed me. Naturally, he was our family optometrist until he could no longer work, so I could look forward to the annual "which is better, one or two?" examination. But I looked forward to the more frequent visits from and to the home of Shelby and Richard, plus their sons, Michael and James. I feel so fortunate to have known him as a doctor and a friend for nearly 40 years. Richard was the embodiment of civility, gentility, kindness, intelligence and respectfulness. As his former students and colleagues pay their respects to mark the 20 years since his passing, so do I, as a patient and family friend. My mother, brother and sister join me in these sentiments, as would my late father.

Marc Lebovitz
Normal, IL

Dr. E.R. Tennant had a rare talent of taking a boring subject and making it interesting and practical. He truly cared about his students and we loved him. His communication skills, compassion, wit and wonderful accent will never be forgotten.

The family atmosphere at ICO was spearheaded by faculty members like Dr. Tennant. I remember him calling me in his office. He was concerned that I was working 40 hours a week while attending ICO. How many professors would know or care?

Richard S. Kattouf, OD '72, DOS
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

*September '64, Geometric Optics.
Introduction to Chicago and Optometry.*

Dr. Tennant had one of those outrageous four-foot 'yard' sticks. He drew rays of refracted, reflected, diffused and lased light, wall to wall. When it became too much for the first-year student to handle and a dazed befuddlement crept in, Dr. Tennant unveiled his four-foot saber-like stimulus machine, drew it back from the board like some Robin Hood device and wacked the slate with a loud Zorro whip effect. All thoughts of catching a short nap were gone. Along came a surge in stomach acid and adrenaline.

Dr. Tennant's ensuing gaze over the audience with his studiously tightened lids blending nicely with his crisply perfect Austrian accent. "Any questions?"

In my wakeful hours with him I feel I got the cream of the crop educator.

Jim Sweeney, OD '67

Dr. Tennant was a remarkable man in many ways and I am very thankful to have known him. I will always remember his wonderful teaching abilities as our Geometrical Optics professor, combining exactness with humor.

What particularly made an impression on me was the way he treated everyone like a member of his family, with honor and dignity. If you were fortunate enough to have visited his office, he would stop everything, warmly welcome you, and offer you a chair. He took a sincere interest in everyone he met and did all he could to help them. He strived to meet the requests of all, but went beyond, by searching for ways he could help others.

I am so grateful to have been touched by the life of Dr. Tennant and am very thankful for his friendship, wisdom, and the opportunities that he gave me. The best way I can honor him is by passing on that same attention to others.

Beverly Clear, OD '78



I first met Dr. Tennant prior to my first day in optometry school because he was on the committee I appeared before when applying for a small scholarship. Once I found out that he lived about two blocks away from me, he instantly became my mentor.

His thick accent was charming and his enthusiasm for optometry contagious. When he would speak, I would hang on every word. But it wasn't in the classroom that I would find my most sincere appreciation of him.

This was the mid-1970s and we were a pretty "wild" class - the first to have long hair allowed and not be required to wear ties to lectures. This was a bitter pill for some of the instructors to swallow but it was a sign of the times. We also felt that our instructors should be in touch with the direction of the profession.

We had a class called "Optometry: The Profession and Science," which was no more than a lesson in the history of our profession. While it was interesting information to hear, being tested on specific dates of the development of certain equipment was not really applicable to our clinical prowess. Anyway, when it came to our first final exam, a full one-third of the class failed! The instructor was determined that we should be re-tested but we felt that the failings were from the instructor and not the students. As things worked out, we held a student strike! Well, the students who stayed away from the test were now in default of a course and therefore classified as failed (automatically required to repeat the year or quit the program).

The word came down that the academic committee was ready to kick out ALL of the striking students. But Dr. Tennant (the chairman) said that the committee would develop a new exam for all the students. We all took his exam and passed. He essentially single-handedly saved the careers for about 65 current optometrists!

Thank you Dr. Tennant for all you have done for us.

Jeffrey Anshel, OD '75

THE WINNER'S CIRCLE

Student award winners benefit from donors' generosity

This year, 55 awards were presented to nearly 70 graduating students during the Capstone Program on May 14

AWARD

RECIPIENT

Alcon 4th Year Optometry Student 2008 Case Study Award
American Academy of Optometry Travel Award

Jennifer Shoudis
Eileen Bush
Seth Dokken
Louis Jison
Emily Pott
Kimberly Smith
Grace Tran
Lee Vien

AOA Contact Lens & Cornea Section Student Research Award
American Optometric Association Student Leadership Award
"Your Passion for Optometry" Award

Vanessa Wang
Renee Phipps
Nana Owusu
Kathryn Baruch
Rakhi Patel
Renee Phipps
Lakitta Woods

ARVO Travel Fellowship

Diane Lee
Mital Patel
Rakhi Patel
Tracey Strombeck
Melissa Misko
Nana Owusu
Tamla Carby

Beta Sigma Kappa Medal
COVD Award for Excellence in Vision Therapy
Cribb Leadership and Service Award
Crizal DCRP Award
David J. Kerko Low Vision Award
Dr. Deanna Roder Memorial Scholarship
C. Clayton Powell Scholarship
Dr. Derrald Taylor Low Vision Residency Award
Dr. and Mrs. Rudolph H. Ehrenberg Research Award
Dr. George L. Demetros Memorial Scholarship

Nathaniel Erdman
Genine Graff
Renee Phipps
Ryan Schultz
Louis Jison

Dr. Irving A. Kernis Memorial Award
Dr. Lorayne Pocius Politser Memorial Scholarship
Dr. Myrel A. Neumann Scholarship

Amber Bartels
Jolyn Wei
Scott Collings
Paul Bastermajian
Michael Budahn
Evan Veire
Rex Aaron Werner
Kimberley Goss
Mariah Harvey
Jennifer Sommer
Kathryn Baruch
Shannon Smith

Dr. Walter S. Yasko Memorial Endowment
E. Richard Tennant Memorial Scholarship
Elmer and Blanch Pieper Memorial Scholarship
Eschenbach Low Vision Award
Exceptional Tutor Award



R. Elliot Politser, MCO '47 (right), with Dr. Augsburger and Paul Bastermajian, OD '08, the first recipient of the Dr. Lorayne Pocius Politser Memorial Scholarship. The endowment was established with a \$25,000 gift from Dr. Politser.

EYE ON GIVING: SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Karen Suzanne DeLoss, OD '08, (far right) won a student scholarship award at the 47th Heart of America Contact Lens Society conference. DeLoss was a 4th-year student when she won the award at the event last February.



AWARD

Faculty Scholarship
Lawrence P. Feigenbaum Clinical Optometry Memorial Award
Polly Flink Eastland Memorial Award
GP Clinical Excellence Award
Heart of America Contact Lens Society Award
American Optometric Foundation Carl Zeiss Vision Fellowship
Gregory Steele Memorial Scholarship
Optometric Education Scholarship
Illinois Optometric Education Scholarship
Marchon Practice Management Scholarship
Michigan Foundation for Vision Awareness Scholarship
ShopLowVision.com Low Vision Award

Student Association Scholarship
Natelle and Curt Brown Endowment for Non-Traditional Students
Philip E. Wells Trust Award
Richard J. O'Brien II Memorial Award
Southwest Contact Lens Award
Student Association Scholarship
Trustees Scholarship

Walman Optical Scholarship

Tsang Family Scholarship
United States Navy Health Professions Scholarship
Valedictory Award
Vision Service Plan Scholarship

Vistakon ACUVUE Eye Health Advisor Student Citizenship
Vistakon Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care
Wal*Mart/Sam's Scholarship
Wildermuth Foundation Scholarship

William Pembloom Low Vision Award

RECIPIENT

Elizabeth Warren
Elizabeth Warren
Elizabeth Warren
Karen DeLoss
Karen DeLoss
Nana Owusu
Seth Dokken
Jamie Choi
Sharon Rovenstine
Brian Dowling
Lee Vien
Kathryn Bantch
Lee Vien
Jennifer Sommer
Marvin Howell
Abbie Rondeau
Grace Tran
Nicholas Anderson
Michael Budahn
Michelle Jones
Michelle Markowitz
Samantha Tomlin
Michaela Thompson
Vandana Gandhi
Jennifer Gula
Brian Engesser
Tracey Strombeck
Stacie Engstrom
Patrick Fleming
William D. Perry
Mindi Kieffer
Kimberly Smith
Melissa Misko
Meagan Petraitis
Vanessa Wang
Rex Aaron Werner
Grace Tran



CLASS NOTES

1949

Paul Grossnickle was a featured speaker at this year's Mentone Memorial Day Service in Indiana.

Grossnickle joined the United States Navy flight program at age 18. He flew Piper Cubs, Stearmans, Vultee Valiants, AT6, F4F Wildcats and flew F6F Helcats off five different aircraft carriers in the Pacific area during World War II.

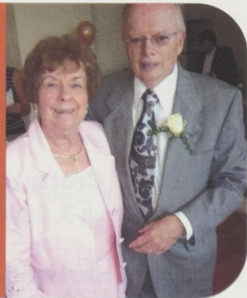
After the war, Grossnickle attended NICO, then enlisted in the USN as an optometrist rather than flying again in the Korean War. He finished his Navy career with 10 years of active duty.

After resigning from the USN, Grossnickle moved to Warsaw, Ind., where he recently retired from Grossnickle Eye Center after 50 years of practice.

Jess Ghormley of Amarillo, Texas, just began his 60th year of practicing optometry. He estimates he has conducted more than 120,000 exams and, he says, "I simply have no desire to retire."

1960

Jim Poland and his wife, Judy, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year.



1971

Victor Connors was named chair of Optometry Giving Sight's United States National Committee. He replaced Dr. Barry Weiner, who has served as Co-Chair with Professor Brien Holden since 2005. Both will now become deputy co-chairs. Connors is currently a member of the organization's global board and is immediate past president of the World Council of Optometry and past president of the AOA and the Wisconsin Optometric Association.

1975

Jeffrey Anshel is president and founding member of the Optometric Nutrition Society,

an organization dedicated to exploring nutritional influences on vision. For more information, go to www.optometricnutritionistsociety.org.

1978

Colonel Randall L. Beatty is currently serving on active duty at the military trauma center in Balad, Iraq. He is Flight Commander for Surgical Specialties. Upon returning to the states he will resume his ophthalmology practice of Orbital/Oculoplastic Surgery at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh.

1990

In April, **Vincent Brandys**, ICO Director for Professional Relations, met with Jesse Jackson, Jr. to discuss programs at the Illinois Eye Institute.



1996

Nick Optiz and his wife, Sarah, are proud to announce the arrival of Samuel Volker Optiz this June.

1999

Brian Woolf married Amy Webb, President of Webb Media, on May 24, 2008, in Baltimore, Maryland. ICO alumni and friends at the wedding were Ward Ransdell, OD '74, Trustee Laurie Wynn and Steven Kasinof, OD '67.



Brian is a third generation optometrist and the fifth family member to practice optometry.

Grandparents:

Ina Gray Woolf, NICO '39

Gerson Woolf, NICO '40

Father:

Howard Woolf, OD '67

Mother:

Owns and manages an optical buying group

Aunt:

Gail Hendelman, NICO '37

Hopefully there will be more optometrists in the Woolf family future.

2000

Reid Saito will be serving his second term as President for the Hawaii Optometric Association.

(left to right)

Kurt Schmitt,

Reid Saito,

Keith

Kawamura,

Charles Clayton,

Eric Bergstrom,

and Mamie Chan at the ICO alumni reception held this summer as part of the AOA meeting in Seattle.



Mamie Chan is President-Elect of the New Mexico Optometric Association. She will be inducted as President in May.

Marshall Dorsett is now Past-President of the South Dakota Optometric Association. He also served on the Nominating Committee for AOA, and was on the President's Council committee this year.

2008

Stacie Engstrom and Brad Setchell were married on May 24, 2008.

Nana Owusu

and **Renee Phipps**

started their careers at ICO on the same day; each was on campus to interview in 2004.

They didn't know each other prior to that day, but kept in touch over the summer and both enrolled at ICO. Four years later, they are headed to Florida to enter a practice together. And now, they are planning a wedding for next May.



In addition, Renee won first place for her paper, "Contemporary Challenges in the Diagnosis and Management of Dry Eye," at the 2007 AOA-CLCS meeting in Boston. The award included a check for \$2,000, airfare to the meeting, two nights lodging, and a plaque displaying the accomplishment.

We'd like to hear from you! Please send your news to Connie Scavuzzo, Director of Alumni Relations, at alumni@ico.edu or mail to the ICO Alumni Office, 3241 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60616.

1938

Frank E. Gradisek died on May 18 in Lorain, Ohio. He was born in Lorain on Feb. 18, 1916, and was a lifelong resident. After graduating from NICO, he went into private practice for 45 years, retiring in 1983. His son, Dr. Robert Gradisek, continues to run the practice, which is now in its 70th year.

1939

Max Honeyman died January 1, 2008.

Paul W. Thomas died August 13, 2007.

1940

Leon Regner of Kenosha, Wis., passed away in May.

1943

John C. Erlander, Fort Myers, Fla.

1947

George C. Schilling of Holmen, Wis., died August 3, 2007.

1948

Nedra Brown of Mokena, Ill., died March 14, 2008.

Frank Kajiwara of Las Vegas, Nevada, passed away April 23, 2008.

1949

Herman Gelles

Edward L. Gilbert died July 23, 2007.

E. Lawrence Hill of Holiday, Fla., passed away June 12, 2008.

Harvey G. Knapp of Baraboo, Wis., died October 1, 2007.

Marvin Miller died of cancer May 6, 2008, in his home in Wilmette, Ill. A passionate fighter for civil rights in the 1960s, Miller devoted his life to liberal causes, working to build understanding and cooperation between different religious communities along the North Shore of Lake Michigan. He and his wife Rayna, who died in 2001, were founding members of the Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs, a fair housing organization. He served on the executive committee of the New Trier Democratic Organization and was a founding member of the North Suburban Peace Initiative. Miller also served briefly in the Navy during World War II before completing his doctorate in optometry at the Northern

Illinois College of Optometry. He later left the field to manage a family-owned business and run other small businesses. He only recently retired from his job as financial secretary for the Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Glenview. Miller is survived by two sons and five grandchildren.

Jared Nesset of Alamogordo, N.M., died in November, 2007.

Robert Webb, otherwise known as Doc, passed away on Feb. 5 in Ashland, Ky. He was 85. A veteran of WWII, he attended Monroe College of Optometry after the service, then opened a private practice in Grayson. In addition to optometry, Webb was a long-time fish and wildlife advocate, serving on the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission for 32 years.

1950

James W. Kensett of Chanute, KS, passed away on May 6, 2008.

James W. McCullough passed away on December 26, 2007.

Morton W. Silverman, 81, of Boca Raton, Fla., passed away on July 9, 2008. An active advocate for the profession of optometry and public health, Silverman won numerous awards and accolades, including ICO's Presidential Medal of Honor for Distinguished Service to Optometry, Rhode Island's Optometrist of the Year, and the Distinguished Service Award for Lifetime Achievement, given by the American Public Health Association.

Silverman served two terms as President of the Rhode Island Optometric Association, and he was involved in major legislation that created substantial changes in the optometric profession. He also served as a member of the R.I. Board of Examiners in Optometry, The R.I. Department of Welfare, Office of Medical Service, and the R.I. Health Dept. Comprehensive Health Planning Executive Committee.

In addition to his private practice in Warwick, R.I., Silverman was a professor of optometry and public health at Nova Southeastern University. He had also served as clinic director at Southern California College of Optometry.

According to an attendee, Silverman's funeral was, "a beautiful service with bag pipes playing at Mort's request, the tropical foliage lush with the light drizzle of rain as a backdrop through stained glass windows in the front of

the chapel." Silverman wrote his own the eulogy, which was, "inspiring and filled with honor."

Bruce S. Thomas died on May 11, 2008.

William Burns Yates, a lifelong resident of Lakeland, Fla., died February 24, 2008, while under hospice care in Jupiter, Fla. A native of Bowden, Ga., Yates moved to Lakeland with his mother as an infant. He graduated from Lakeland High School in 1941, where he played Dreadnought football, and attended the University of Florida on a football scholarship. He served in the United States Air Force (USAF) throughout World War II, completing his optometric education after the war before serving again in the USAF during the Korean War. Yates then set up his optometry practice in Lakeland and also maintained a small Angus ranch in Medulla. A member of the Lakeland Lyons Club and the American Legion, Yates was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Dorothy, a daughter, his brother, and his parents. He is survived by his son Thomas and his wife Kathleen Cunningham of Jupiter, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

1951

Edward R. Seefelt died March 17, 2008.

1955

Patrick H. Crotty of Auburn, Neb., passed away on March 3, 2008.

Robert L. Hartsell died Dec. 30, 2007.

1973

Thomas W. Rice of Marquette, Mich., died May 11, 2008.

1987

Randy David Ford, surrounded by his family and loved ones, lost his battle with cancer on June 11, 2008. He was 49.

Randy was the embodiment of optimism with his incredible strength of body, mind and spirit. He taught us all a lot about living and loving. Please visit his web site at www.randyford.net to see him, his paintings and reread his amazingly insightful letters about life.

In the words of his cousin, Lydia: "Thank Randy for making the world a better place; we were so fortunate to know him, touched by his kindness, his love and his wonderful spirit."

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

The Leadership Circle recognizes our most generous benefactors – those individuals who support the College with annual gifts of \$1,000 or more. This list reflects Leadership Circle membership through June 13, 2008.



GOLD MEMBERS

Leadership Circle Gold Members have 10 consecutive years of membership and/or have made a single commitment of \$50,000 or more.

Mark K. Colip, O.D.
Dr. and Mrs. Donovan L. Crouch
Dr. and Mrs. Dick Edwards
Robert L. Fait, O.D.
Dr. and Mrs. Philip E. Hottel
Richard S. Kattouf, O.D., D.O.S.
Steve A. Leon, O.D.
Jeff W. Smith, O.D.

SILVER MEMBERS

Leadership Circle Silver Members have 5 consecutive years of membership and/or have made a single commitment of \$25,000 - \$49,000.

Mr. Steven H. Abbey and Ms. Pamela Brick
Dwight H. Akerman, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Robert L. Albertson, O.D.
Arol Augsburger, O.D.
Irwin Azman, O.D.
John L. Baker, O.D., M.S. Ed.
Robert J. Blumthal, O.D.
Donald J. Bush, O.D.
Dr. and Mrs. James R. Butler
T. Roy Chan, O.D.
Valarie Conrad, O.D., M.P.H.
Craig D. Crouch, O.D.
Fred R. DeHaan, O.D.
Steven Devick, O.D.
Michael V. Favia, J.D.
Kelly A. Frantz, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Richard P. Franz, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Gary G. Gray, Jr., O.D.
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Bruce A. Teitelbaum, O.D.
Laurie M. Wynn, C.I.M.A.

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Leadership Circle Bronze Members have one to four year(s) of membership and a single commitment of \$1,000 - \$24,999.

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James A. Blasco, O.D.
Dr. and Mrs. Neil S. Boderman
Larry L. Brandt, O.D.
Vincent W. Brandys, O.D.
Albert A. Bucar, O.D., D.O.S.
John and Antoinette Budzynski
Lucia S. Burrell, O.D.
Steve P. Butzon, O.D.
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Denis J. Dubuc, O.D.
Mr. Gerald Dujsik
Sylvio L. Dupuis, O.D.
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Robert M. Hass, O.D.

William B. Hass, O.D.
R. Mark Hatfield, O.D., M.D.
Ms. Karen J. Hennessy
Drs. Todd and Kara Heying
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Dave and Mary Ryberg
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Dirk Schrotenboer, O.D.
Dr. Jennet Shepherd and Reverend David McDonald
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ICOMatters

VOLUME 7 / ISSUE 3

MAGAZINE OF THE ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY AND THE ILLINOIS EYE INSTITUTE

BUDGET MINDED:

Keeping the balance at the Illinois College of Optometry

FALL 2008

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

DATEBOOK

DECEMBER

Monday, Dec. 22 - Saturday, Jan. 3, 2009

Student Winter Break

JANUARY 2009

Monday, Jan. 5

Students return

Saturday, Jan. 10

Grand opening and dedication of the 3rd floor
Enhanced Learning Center (Eyepod)
On Campus

Saturday, Jan. 10 – Sunday, Jan. 11

Oral Therapeutic Agent Update Course
12 hours of credit (6 tested)
Co-sponsored by the IOA and ICO
On Campus

Monday, Jan. 19

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - College / IEI Closed

FEBRUARY

Friday, Feb. 6

Last day of Winter Quarter classes / labs

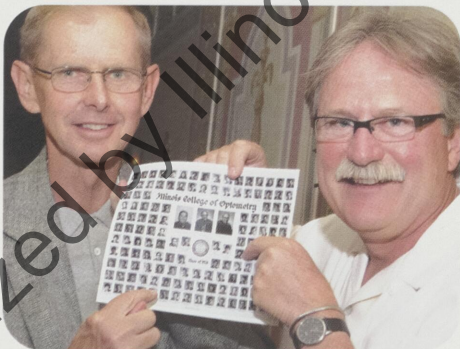
Monday, Feb. 23

First day of Spring Quarter

MARCH

Friday, March 27

Iowa Optometric Association Annual Congress
ICO Alumni Hospitality Suite
Embassy Suites
Des Moines, IA



Drs. Gary Pedersen and Douglas McBride find themselves in the 1978 class photo during Alumni Weekend 2008



ICO Trustee Millicent Knight, OD '87, enjoys a preview of the new Enhanced Learning Center during the Board of Trustees' fall meeting.

APRIL

Friday, April 10 - Saturday, April 11

College / IEI closed - Spring Recess

Monday, April 13

College / IEI reopens; recess continues for 1st, 2nd, and 4th years

Monday, April 20

1st, 2nd, and 4th year students return

MAY

Thursday, May 7

Last day Spring Quarter classes / labs

Saturday, May 16

ICO Alumni Council Meeting
On Campus

ICO Commencement
Rockefeller Chapel

The "Eye" Ball

A benefit for the Illinois Eye Institute and its charitable programs
Ritz Carlton Hotel
Chicago, IL



Over the summer, a boys choir from Uganda visited the IEI.

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Board of Trustees

Richard S. Kattouf, OD '72, DOS
Chairman

Steven H. Abbey, MBA

James R. Butler, OD '59

Mamie Chan, OD '00

Donovan Crouch, OD '63

Paul Erickson, OD, PhD

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Willicent Knight, OD '87

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Jeffrey R. Varanelli, OD '98

Tommy Elton, Courtney Krohn
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ICO Matters

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Diane Alexander White

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ICO's new Enhanced Learning Center, "the Eyepod," was completed in October. Shortly thereafter, Gary Gunderson, OD '79 and Jan Jurkus, OD '74 (left photo, front) gathered members of the third-year class for photos in the new space.



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ABOUT DR. TENNANT

I was pleased to see the amount of space in the last alumni bulletin given to my friend Dr. Richard Tennant [Summer 2008]. I don't know where one of the writers got the idea that Dick landed at New Orleans and became a dock hand. He went from England directly to Chicago. I checked this with his widow and his brother Arthur, with whom I attended Optometry school in Manchester, England.

Sincerely,

Paul Slaton, F.C.Optom, OD, FAAO

Thank you for the correction, Dr. Slaton!



Visit us at

WWW.ICO.EDU

PAYING THE BILLS: WHAT DOES IT COST TO KEEP UP THE COLLEGE?

Any business, even a not-for-profit business like the Illinois College of Optometry, must be able to pay its real operational bills, replace vital capital items and invest in a successful future. When I arrived on campus six years ago, I pledged that ICO would be a good steward of the money. I believe this issue of *ICO Matters* will give you comfort that we are indeed doing just that.

Two-thirds of the operational dollars ICO spends each year to provide value to our doctoral students comes from the tuition and fees these students pay. However, additional dollars are needed annually to allow ICO to fulfill its mission of providing excellence in clinical education. We have been able to gain some income by growing the patient care revenue from eye and vision care services so ably provided by our faculty members, working with doctoral students and post-doctoral residents. While this annual revenue has grown to now about 20 percent of our annual operating costs, much of those dollars must be spent to support the infrastructure of operating such a large patient care facility as the Illinois Eye Institute (IEI). Last year we had more than 90,000 patient visits to the IEI, and many of these patients were among Chicago's neediest.

We are grateful that optometrists from all over the country have chosen to attend the ICO continuing education courses offered not only in Illinois, but across the U.S., and most recently online. The additional revenue from these continuing edu-

cation courses certainly provides opportunities to generate discretionary dollars for ICO. Here in Illinois, we have valued our close working relationship with the Illinois Optometric Association, which has been ICO's partner in providing the best in lifelong learning to our practitioners. When your next need for continuing education arises, I hope you will choose ICO and its partners to meet your needs.

But most important to the success of ICO is the margin of excellence resulting from contributions to our programs. During the most recent year, this included over \$2.6 million from sources as diverse as:

- annual giving from our alumni and friends
- planned giving and estates contributed or pledged
- foundation support for the many service programs which benefit our communities
- research grants to support the best development of new knowledge products and services
- support from governmental grants and from corporations who value optometric education

To continue to provide this margin of excellence to ICO and the IEI, I need your help. In this issue you will find many reasons to give to ICO. But you will only need one to make a big difference to the future of our doctors-in-training.

Arrol Augsperger O.D.



ICO's mission is to provide excellence in clinical education.

FOCUS ON YOUR FUTURE SUMMER PROGRAM

A week-long experience at ICO for minority students



Twenty African-American and Latino students hailing from states across the country stayed at the Illinois College of Optometry last summer as part of the College's first "Focus on Your Future" week-long summer program.

The experience offered current undergraduate and graduate students, as well as recent graduates, the opportunity to explore ICO and gain insight into optometry as a career choice. They ranged in age from 19 to 28 years old.

"I absolutely loved it," remarked one participant at the end of the week. "I have gained so much Thank you all for such a life-changing experience."

"The students who participated in the program were passionate about optometry and excited to be here."

Teisha Johnson, Director of Admissions and Marketing (above left, center)

Optometry has once again received superior career forecast rankings:

- 2008 America's Best Paying Jobs - Forbes.Com
- 25 Best Paying Jobs - MSN Money
- Best Careers 2008 - US News and World Report

2008 ENTERING CLASS PROFILE

Applicants	966
Interviewed	445
Enrolled	163
Mean Cumulative GPA	3.39
Mean OAT (TS)	343
Personal Statistics	
Female	107
Male	56
Mean Age	23
Age Range	19-31
Married	12
Minority	75
States Represented	27
Foreign Countries Represented	5

ALUMNI WEEKEND FLASHBACK

Come along on a tour of ICO's jam-packed Alumni Weekend, which ran from Friday, Sept. 5, through Sunday, Sept. 7.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ICO'S 2008 ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS:

(Back, l to r)

Alumnus of the Year: Charles B. Brownlow, OD '71
Excellence in Education – Faculty: Janis Ecklund Winters, OD '91
Alumna of the Year: Charlotte F. Nielsen, OD '92
Professional Achievement Award: Janice E. Scharre, OD '76
Distinguished Alumnus of the Year: Thomas A. Lawless, OD '71

(Seated, l to r)

Humanitarian Award: James A. McKechnie, Jr.
Lifetime Service (posthumously): Morton W. Silverman, OD '50 (accepted by his wife, Barbara)
Lifetime Service Award: Irvin M. Borish, NICO '34
Distinguished Friend: Illinois State Representative Esther Golar



50-YEAR CLUB

The 4th annual 50 Year Club Breakfast was held to recognize alumni who have been serving in the profession for 50 or more years. A special 50 Year Club membership certificate and lapel pin were presented by Dr. Augsburger to each new member in attendance. They were (in alphabetical order):

Jerome Agresti, OD, NICO '48
Irvin M. Borish, OD, NICO '34
Russell Burton, OD, NICO '45
George Chaskes, OD '58
Ian Dunscombe, OD '58
Seymour Konopken, OD, NICO '48
Cosimo Paone, OD, CCO '53
Norbert Patterson, OD '57
Morton W. Silverman, OD, NICO '50 (posthumously)
Richard Stratton, OD, NICO '48
John W. Wells, OD '58



DONOR RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

A special, invitation-only luncheon for donors was held in the Valencia Room of the InterContinental Chicago. Guests, including Pamela Lowe, OD '88, were recognized for their support by Trustee Chair, Richard Kattouf, OD '72, and ICO President, Dr. Arol Augsburger.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR RAFFLE PRIZE DONORS

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Ocular Instruments
Matsco
Lupe Contractors

InterContinental Chicago
HOYA Vision
Signet Armorlite
Dr. Jeff Smith of For Eyes Optical
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EYE ON ALUMNI



The Class of 1978 celebrated having the highest attendance of any class year.



Philip Ortiz, OD '63, and his guest, Marion, enjoyed Salsa Night.



Jacque Young, OD '83, was one of many raffle prize winners.

STUDENT/ALUMNI RECEPTION WITH EXHIBITORS

These corporate vendors shared their products and services at the Student/Alumni Reception with Exhibitors. Thank you for your participation!

ABBA Optical, Inc.
Alcon Labs
Bausch & Lomb
Classique Eyewear
Essilor of America
Expert Optics
EyeCodeRight Online
Haag-Streit USA
HOYA Vision Care
International Vision Expo
Luxottica Retail
Matsco
Meda Pharmaceuticals
Ocular Instruments
Precision Vision
Signet Armorlite, Inc.
STAR Ophthalmic Instruments
USI Optometric Insurance
Vision-Ease Lens
Volk Optical, Inc.
Ron Vorona Associates & EyeGrads, Inc.
Walmart Stores, Inc.
Welch Allyn



THE SMART BUSINESS PROGRAM

The Smart Business Program, sponsored by Alcon, drew a crowd of 130 students on Saturday, Sept. 6. The program featured Robert Steinmetz, OD '03, (far right) speaking on "The Bills and Thrills in Life as a New Graduate," and a recent graduate panel discussion, moderated by Geoffrey Goodfellow, OD '01. The panelists were (from left to right in photos) Kimberly K. Cruise, OD '98, Jason W. Blowe, OD '06, Patricia Perez, OD '03, Jeffrey R. Varanelli, OD '98, Katherine M. Narbone, OD '07, Jeffrey B. Frank, OD '03.



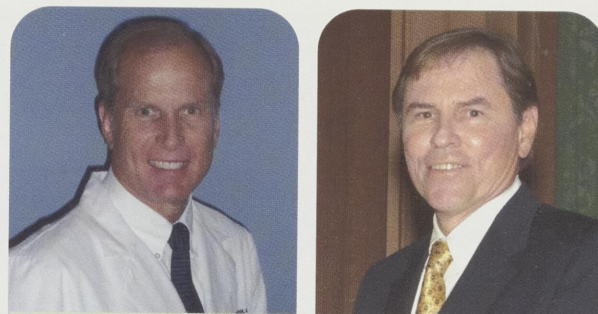
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS

The ICO Alumni Council elected new officers for 2008-2009 during its meeting in September. The Council is comprised of ICO alumni who are elected to represent and lead the Alumni Association. Officers may be elected to serve three 1-year terms. They are:

PRESIDENT - Mamie Chan, OD '00, of Albuquerque, N.M.
VICE-PRESIDENT - Charles Harrill, OD '74, of Mechanicsville, Va.
SECRETARY-TREASURER - Dominick Maino, OD '78, Chicago, Ill.

During the same meeting, the Alumni Council thanked two members who completed their last terms: Robert Fait, OD '68, of Burlington, Wis., and Robert Grazian, OD '82, (out-going president), of Santee, Calif. Each completed nine years of service to ICO on the Alumni Council (three 3-year terms).

Thank you, doctors, for your years of valued service.



*New members elected to the Council are:
 C. Steven Lancaster, OD '80, of Jacksonville, Fla.
 (left), and John P. Fitzpatrick, OD '71, FAAO, of
 Carlsbad, Calif. Congratulations and
 welcome to the Alumni Council!*

WHAT A GREAT TIME IT IS TO BE ICO ALUMNI!

Just like when your team wins the Superbowl or the World Series and you get to walk around with an "I-told-you-so" gloating grin, it is now our time to walk around with our chests puffed out. There are so many things that ICO alumni can brag about.

- The third floor Enhanced Learning Center boasts 38 lanes of ophthalmic equipment in two separate eye labs and five research labs. The center features high tech equipment, modern furniture and lighting, and a student lounge with unobstructed views of downtown.
- Our first-year class is one of the most competitive classes yet, entering with new highs of SPAs and OAT scores, and we continue to graduate skilled clinicians with the highest Board pass rates.
- And our clinical education opportunities through externships and IEL, which has over 90,000 patient visits per year, provide a remarkable quality of patient care experience.



But I'd like to challenge you—when was the last time you visited our campus? I guarantee you will be amazed with the change in facilities, curriculum, and attitude since you were here. And the neighborhood is not the same South Side Chicago neighborhood; thanks to revitalization, the area is chock full of condos, beautiful homes, and a suburban feel, even though it's only five minutes from downtown. ICO's

President and his wife like the community so much, they have settled there.

So don't be jealous that the students no longer have to deal with the dated third floor labs, like we did, or endure the old neighborhood. Instead, let's revel in the advancement in which we all benefit. It takes effort to maintain a winning team. None of us are rookies. So if you haven't already, get off the side-lines and come join us on the field.

Mamie Chan OD

There was palpable electricity in the air during Alumni Weekend, held Sept. 5 - 7. We had class reunions, sightseeing and campus tours, an alumni reception with exhibitors, and an amazing salsa night. Alumni were able to interact with students and find the true pulse of what campus life is like. And most of all, alumni could reconnect with former classmates, faculty, and the institution that altered all of our lives.

CLASS NOTES

1978

Tom Doyle has recently completed his 4th Lions/VOSH eyecare mission to Valmiera, Latvia. He helped head the 22 person trip which saw 1000 patients in 5.5 days.

He writes, "Please extend my best wishes to all of the Class of 1978. I look back fondly on those years and cannot believe that it has been 30 years."

1980

Peter Agnone of Grand Blanc has been appointed by the Governor of Michigan to represent optometrists on the Michigan Board of Optometry. His term expires June 30, 2012.

1981

Robert Blumthal of Springfield, Ill., was elected President of the Illinois Optometric Association during the IOA Convention in September 2008.

1982

Thomas Bobst of North Olmsted, Ohio, was elected President of the Ohio Optometric Association during the OOA Congress in October 2008.

1987

Trustee **Millicent Knight** and her husband, Harvey Echols, welcomed Matthew Lewis Knight Echols in August.



1989

Louise Sclafani of Chicago, Ill., was selected as OD of the Year by the Illinois Optometric Association during its September convention. Dr. Sclafani noted that exactly 10 years ago she received the Young OD award.

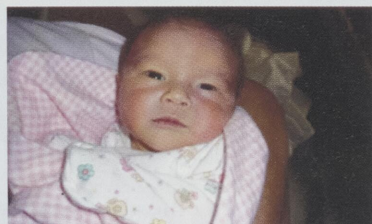
1990

Vince Brandys of Streamwood, Ill., was chosen as Keyperson of the Year by the Illinois Optometric Association during its convention in September.

Lori L. Grover was elected Chair of the AOA Low Vision Rehabilitation Section.

1995

Kristin K. Anderson of Memphis, Tenn., an associate professor at Southern College of Optometry, was recently named Vice President for Institutional Advancement. Dr. Anderson previously served as Director of Continuing Education as well as Chief of the Low Vision and Rehabilitation Services at SCO.



2000

Mamie Chan and her husband, Gordon Cottrill, welcomed Sabina Mei-Oi Cottrill on October 16, 2008. Mamie writes that, "Everything is great!"

2003

Raman Gill and Sukh Takher ('04) are proud to announce the arrival of a beautiful baby girl, Samiya K. Takher, this August.

2004

Diane Nhan has opened a branch of Texas State Optical. A therapeutic optometrist, she and her family escaped communist Vietnam when she was in seventh grade.

2005

Deana LaBrosse of Evanston, Ill., was chosen as Young OD of the Year by the Illinois Optometric Association during its convention in September 2008.

OBITUARIES

1937

Richard Steffeck (NICO) of Skokie, Ill., passed away on October 2, 2007.

1938

Zangwill H. Freed (NICO) of Peoria, Ill., died March 26, 2008.

1939

Leonard Crane (NICO) from West Bloomfield, Mich., and Boca Raton, Fla., died July 29, 2008.

Paul W. Thomas (MCO) of Decatur, Ill., died on August 13, 2007.

1940

Leo A. Bush (NICO) of Casper, Wyo., died June 5, 2008.

John G. White (NICO) of Clare, Wis., died June 15, 2008.

1943

Robert B. Savin (NICO) died November 7, 2006.

1945

Alfred Pedi (NICO)

1947

James H. Johnson (NICO) of Homewood, Ill., passed away in July 2007.

Sidney R. Nelson (NICO) of Milwaukee, Wis., died May 28, 2008.

1948

Medford D. Bair (NICO) of Sun City Center, Fla., died December 21, 2007.

Robert "Doc" D. Lindell (NICO) of Grand Rapids, Minn., passed away on September 9, 2008.

1949

Herbert Acker (NICO) of Laguna Hills, Calif., died March 7, 2008.

William R. Fugate (CCO) of Springfield, Mo., died on February 28, 2008.

John M. Kidd (NICO), of Petersburg, Ind., passed away in July 2008.

Joseph LoCicero, Jr. (NICO) from Mobile, Ala., died January 28, 2008.

Joseph Tagua (CCO) died on July 6, 2008.

1950

Alvin E. Housenga (CCO), of Fulton, Ill., passed away on March 1, 2008.

Rubin I. Jaffe (NICO) of Pawlet, Vt., died July 31, 2008. He practiced in Portsmouth from 1950 until his retirement in 1987.

1952

Paul H. Jacobsen (CCO) of East Moline, Ill., died May 27, 2008.

1953

Kenneth Kleman (NICO)

John Pinard (CCO) of De Witt, Neb., died April 14, 2008.

1955

Patrick H. Crotty (NICO) of Auburn, Neb., died on March 3, 2008.

1960

Louis Brilliant of Delray Beach, Fla., died on Aug. 5, 2008.

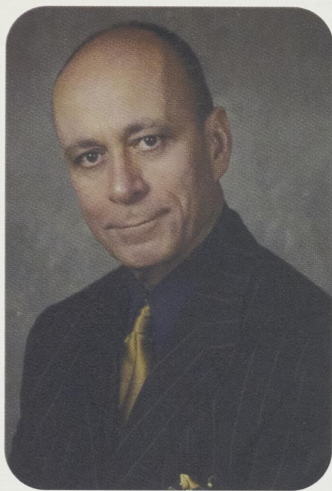
1964

Michael H. Melcher, age 66, passed away at his home in Wisconsin on Aug. 18, 2008.

1968

Robert G. Misener, of Northbrook, Ill., passed away November 12, 2008.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



I have had the honor of being a member of ICO's Board of Trustees since 2000; in 2007, I was named Chairman.

This appointment reflected my enthusiasm for fundraising, as demonstrated by my pledge of \$150,000 to ICO to help energize others. This fall, I hosted ICO's Donor Recognition Luncheon during Alumni Weekend. This celebration of the generosity of the ICO community was tremendously inspiring and rewarding.

So is being part of the implementation of ICO's Strategic Plan. The Board adopted the five-year plan in March 2007. In just over a year-and-a-half, we have completed construction of new \$7 million laboratories for our students, one of our first priorities in creating a new model for optometric education.

This phenomenal project, the Enhanced Learning Center, or Eyepod as it is called, is the most state-of-the-art optometric teaching facility in the country. The College is offering naming opportunities for those who want to underwrite part of the new facility in

their name or in recognition of another. Several years ago, I named the primary eyecare clinic on the first floor. The Kattouf Family Primary Eye Care Suite honors my wife, Jackie, daughter, Dr. Valerie Kattouf Sosne, my son, Dr. Richard S. Kattouf II and myself.

The Board of Trustees has also approved the formation of the Illinois Eye Institute Foundation. The sole purpose of this foundation is to raise funds from the optometric and local civic communities to support our clinical activities. The IEI Foundation will hold its first annual fundraising banquet on May 16, 2009. As Chairman of the Board of Trustees, I urge you to attend this benefit gala and support our development efforts. For more details, contact David Korajczyk at (312) 949-7075, dkorajczyk@ico.edu, or me at 330-219-5094, advancedeyecare@hotmail.com.

As a private institution, ICO depends on tuition fees as our main source of income. Your contribution can significantly lessen the burden on student tuition. My plea to our 8,000 alumni is that you participate in donating to your alma mater, where you received the educational base for your success. It is your participation in paying forward that keeps ICO as the premier optometric college.

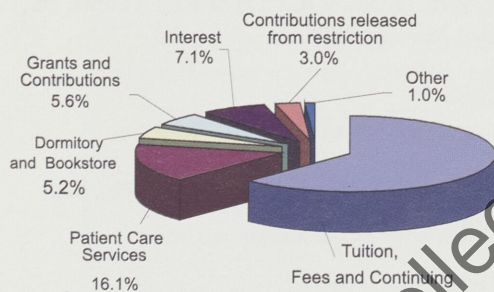
Fraternally Yours,
Richard S. Kattouf, OD '72, DOS

Richard S. Kattouf, OD '72, DOS

2008 FINANCIAL REPORT

Unrestricted Operating Revenue

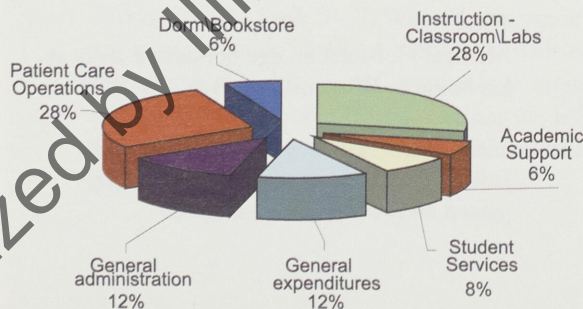
2007 - 2008 \$30,624,079



Unrestricted Operating Expenditures

Functional Classification

2007-2008 \$27,984,694



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUE GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT

	Percent of Operating Activity	2008 Total Unrestricted
Tuition and Fees	62%	\$19,023,178
Patient Care Services and Materials	16.1%	4,925,182
Grants and Contributions	5.6%	1,704,318
Other	1.0%	297,739
Interest and Dividends	7.1%	2,165,162
Auxiliary Enterprises	5.2%	1,593,206
Funds Released from Restriction	3.0%	915,294
Total	100.0%	\$30,624,079

EXPENSES

Education	42.3%	11,841,875
Patient Care Operations	27.5%	7,706,871
Auxiliary Enterprises	5.8%	1,619,840
Institutional Support	24.4%	6,816,108
Total	100.0%	\$27,984,694

Change in Net Assets

From Operating Activities	\$2,639,385
Non Operating Activities	(\$3,757,866)
Total Change in Net Assets	(\$1,118,481)

Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$30,105,165
Net Assets at End of Year	\$28,986,684

BUDGET-MINDED

ICO'S EVERLASTING EFFORT TO KEEP THE CURRICULUM FAT, WHILE RUNNING THE COLLEGE LEAN

"We have some hard decisions to make regarding the budget," said John Budzynski, ICO's Vice President for Business and Finance/Chief Financial Officer, at the beginning of a bi-weekly meeting of the President's Administrative Cabinet. PAC is Dr. Augsburger's special team, his seven vice-presidents who branch out around the College, overseeing every class and clinic, nook and cranny, nut and bolt...well you get the picture.

At the time of that meeting, the Trustees were due to visit campus in a month for their fall gathering. The budget had to be in place. The members of PAC were there to do the job.

It is a team effort. ICO is more than students in a clinic. It is a complex organization, layered with divisions of responsibility. Running an institution of higher learning such as the Illinois College of Optometry – and running it at the caliber that ICO is run – takes rigorous oversight. It takes the 16-member Board of Trustees, who are ultimately responsible for governance of the College. It takes the nine key people (including Dr. Augsburger and his Chief Executive Assistant, Maggie Ho) in PAC, as well as their staff members, to make sure the lights go on every day, faculty are in place to teach, and there is money in the budget to pay for it. The workings are extraordinary.

As illustration, consider Opie Nimon's area spreadsheets. Nimon has been ICO's Chief Engineer for the past 12 years. He really knows every nook and cranny. Nimon oversees the 383,000 square feet of ICO's campus and all its grounds. He's got the College broken down into zones: the main building, Brady Hall, Residential Complex, administrative area, the mail and copy room, security, the dock and receiving.

Every day when Nimon arrives at 6 a.m., he goes through a list of checks of the facility. When he's at home, he can run checks from a state-of-the-art environmental control system. In the morning, he makes sure the cleaning crew has gotten the Residence Commons clean, that the mail has gotten sorted, teaching materials printed, the cafeteria set with paper towels.

He uses a multitude of colorful charts and graphs. "I'm tracking everything," he says. He watches equipment and special projects, and he watches his \$1.9 million budget. "Utilities are our challenge right now," he sighs.

When he can, Nimon saves the College thousands each month on utilities. Yes, that's thousands per month. Annualized, he has saved ICO between \$49,000 and \$65,000 on gas prices in the past two years. "When I see an opportunity, I work with the Business Office to lock in rates," Nimon says. "And we've done a lot of energy savings projects, like changing to energy efficient light bulbs."

In this Annual Report issue of ICO Matters, we look at the books. What does it really take to run the Illinois College of Optometry, a place with:

*259 Employees
612 Students
383,000 square feet of space
80,000 square feet of Residential Complex
A 5-story garage
64,000 feet of grounds*

And a mission. "Our goal is to never have to close," says Vice President for Human and Physical Resources, Laura Rounce. "We run 24 hours, seven days a week. To make that workable is a lot bigger than you think."

Consider these annual expenses:

*Maintenance: \$1.3 million
Utilities: \$563,411
Clinic: \$7 million
Education: \$11 million*



The President's Administrative Cabinet in session (clockwise, starting at bottom left)

*Dr. Arol Augsburger, President
Dr. Valarie Conrad - Vice President for Compliance and Risk Management Services
Dr. Kent Daum - Dean/Vice President for Academic Affairs
Laura Rounce - Vice President for Human and Physical Resources
John Budzynski - Vice President for Business and Finance/CFO
David Korajczyk - Vice President for Development
Dr. Leonard Messner - Vice President for Patient Care Services/Executive Director of the Illinois Eye Institute
Dr. Mark Colip - Vice President for Student Affairs*

FEATURE: BUDGET-MINDED

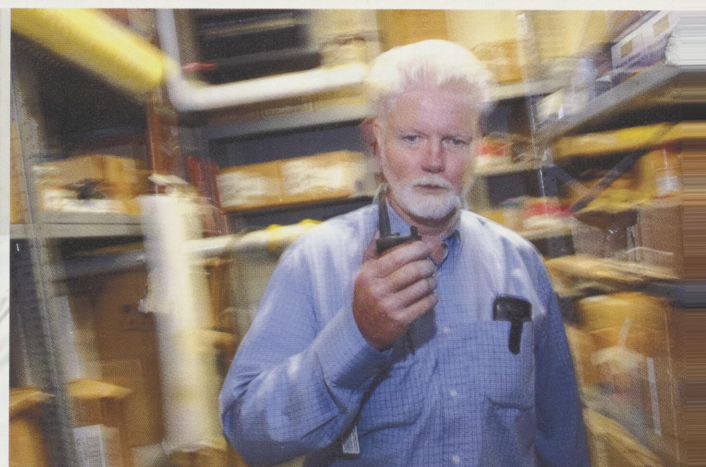
"Opie has done a fantastic job at long-term planning," says Budzynski. "People would be surprised at our costs. We pay \$33,000 every month for electricity alone. And that's with constantly looking at how we can reduce expenses. We've become very efficient in the way we do things. We're like a fine-tuned engine. And, that's happened because we give information to managers – they keep an eye out."

In addition to Finance, ICO's vice presidents direct Facilities, the Illinois Eye Institute, Human Resources, Student Affairs, the Faculty, the Academic Program, Risk Management and Development. They scrutinize every decision regarding their area, including where to spend money. They go to PAC every other week, lay out their needs and pick the most pressing. They steward resources delicately.

"There are challenges getting ends to meet," says Dr. Leonard V. Messner, Vice President for Patient Care Services and Executive Director of the Illinois Eye Institute. "Academic medical centers run white-hot owing to sicker and more complicated patients. Add to this the need to maintain certain disciplines that do not make money, and it's tough. Even so, IIE's goal is to run its clinical programs independent of tuition subsidization, and we've made significant strides in this area." In fact, the Illinois Eye Institute Foundation has been created to raise money for IIE's charitable services programs and clinical research activities.



John Budzynski, Vice President for Business and Finance/CFO



Opie Nimon, Chief Engineer

In essence, PAC's goal is to control tuition. "Our main revenue source is tuition and fees from students," Budzynski explains. "Sixty-two percent of our revenue comes from there. Sixteen percent comes from patients – those are our two main sources of income."

He continues, "Everyone at ICO works to keep costs down; everyone is concerned about costs so students don't have enormous debt. That's why the College also relies on philanthropy."

The challenge: provide an elite education while suppressing tuition and operating cost increases. "Sometimes it's a matter of choosing between buying new equipment and making sure the HVAC system is ready for winter," says Laura Rounce, Vice President for Human and Physical Resources. "We do things that need to be done methodically, as quickly as we can, watching every dime along the way."



The Eyepod includes 38 eyelab lanes, all facing a central instruction point.

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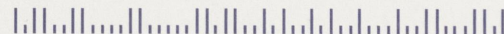
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ICO'S EYEPOD

STATE-OF-THE-ART LABORATORIES RAISE THE BENCHMARK FOR STUDENTS



*Laura Rounce, Vice President for
Human and Physical Resources*

In a way, it was a stroke of luck at the right time. The ICO Administration and Board of Trustees had committed to a five-year Strategic Plan that necessitated revamping the laboratory space for students. The clock was ticking on implementing the initiative.

"Doing the Strategic Plan, we identified the need to change the curriculum in order to remain competitive with other colleges of optometry," says Dr. Valarie Conrad, Vice President for Compliance and Risk Management Services. "There was no way to do that with our old space." But to remodel or build would be a huge capital expense.

As the discussions took place, the stock market rose. When the plan to renovate the third floor of the building into state-of-the-art laboratories came before the Board in March, 2007, the College was in a position to shoulder the expense. The Strategic Planning Committee urged the Board to approve the renovations of the laboratories.

When they did, "We were thrilled," says Laura Rounce, Vice President for Human and Physical Resources. She and Conrad spearheaded the project, and a year later, on May 19, 2008, the \$6.9 million construction phase of the Enhanced Learning Center began.

The undertaking was enormous. Rounce and Conrad added wholly new full-time responsibilities to their workdays. "We divided it up by saying I was in charge of the facility internally, moving people out of their offices and things like that," says Rounce. "We moved 27 people and four entire

departments to accommodate the construction. Dr. Conrad was in charge of the project externally, dealing with the contractor, Krah Construction, and the architect, Jensen & Holsted, and those kinds of things."

The two made a pact to keep the project on schedule by keeping communication flowing and holding up their share of the responsibilities. They balanced the needs of 259 employees, keeping track of 50 external workers onsite, rerouting 612 students and countless patients, "with little to no disruption," Rounce says. They did so well, the contractor referred to ICO as its favorite client. Even better, the project came in on time and within budget. It opened to students on Oct. 7, 2008.

"We tried to have no surprises," Conrad says. "Of course, on the first day of construction, the Vice President for Development's office flooded, but things got better after that."

Dubbed "Eyepod," the complex of labs and resources takes up 29,000 square feet, the entire third floor of the College. It provides two eye labs with 38 lanes, all facing the center of the floor for full range visibility. "I have not heard of any other school having two complete eye labs that can be used for instruction," says Conrad. "What we have now is very unusual in optometric education."

And few can boast the state-of-the-art technology built into the Eyepod. It provides individualized video display monitors, computerized charts, DVD high definition equipment, the latest digital projectors and MP3 hookups.

"It's outstanding, but it's not extravagant," says Conrad. "We had to rebuild the infrastructure, there was no way around it. The original lab was built in 1960." Today's labs are upscale and modern. They incorporate a flexible structure with private work spaces. And one of Conrad's favorite features are the windows, opening the north side of the facility to spectacular light and inspiring views of the city's skyline.

"I think we have achieved a beautiful, functional and flexible space that will accommodate the needs of our students for years to come," Conrad says. "Now we need to rebuild our investments while remaining committed to strategically investing in faculty and intellectual property, our facilities and our financial assets."

"This was only the beginning piece of our long-term plan," Conrad says. "We're developing a campus master plan that will determine how we expand our clinical space. We're looking at how we advance into the future."



A CRITICAL INVESTMENT

THE FACULTY CARRY THE PROGRAM AT ICO



Dr. Susan Kelly with students



Dr. Elizabeth Wyles

Some people outside the field of optometry may have questioned Elizabeth Wyles when she decided to leave the Northwest United States to move to northern Illinois. But those who know optometry can understand. Regional climate aside, "There are few, if any, clinical situations like we have at ICO," says Wyles. "Having been at two other institutions and in private practice, I was swept away by the professional opportunities that were here for me."

Wyles joined the faculty in August of 2006. Of course she had heard of ICO, and she learned more as she sat on the exam Boards with Professor Gary Beshar, ICO's Chairman of Basic and Health Sciences. But it wasn't until she started working in the Illinois Eye Institute that she realized the true value of the College. "You can explain our clinic and people think you're exaggerating," she says. "It's a plethora of ocular disease and refractive conditions. It's incredibly educational." And Wyles means that in terms of the students and for herself.

As a result, Wyles has been happy with her work at ICO. She says the only thing she longs for is more time. "We always want additional time to teach," she says. "Particularly in clinic. We have such a busy clinic. It's a challenge to balance education and patient care. But that's inherent in any good clinic. That's not a bad thing."

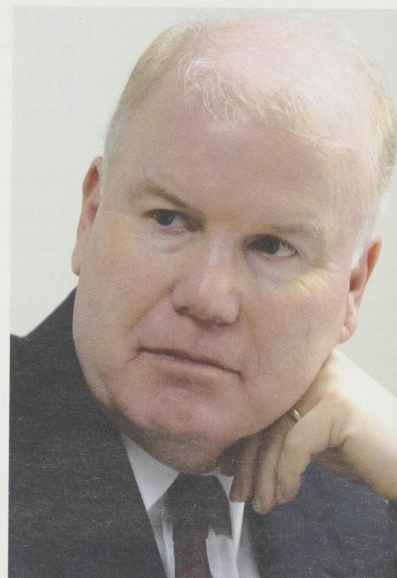
Nonetheless, Dr. Kent Daum, Vice President and Dean for Academic Affairs, is working to alleviate those pressures. He makes great efforts to ensure the environment at ICO is comfortable for

faculty. "Faculty here are highly goal-oriented," he says. "They figure out how to meet the students' needs without vast resources, without extra time. But because they are goal-oriented, they don't necessarily speak their needs. Being able to listen to what the faculty are saying, hearing about what people are doing and how. That simple process of helping them – that's a very important part of my job."

And it's a challenging one. "People underestimate how an institution works," Daum says. "They don't recognize how expensive it is, how many people you need to have a highly productive program like we have."

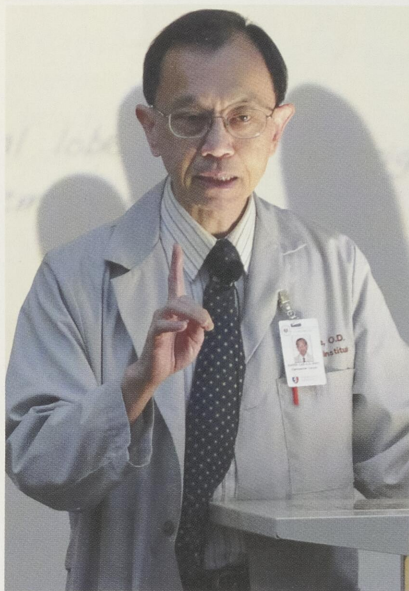
He points out that 65 percent of the College's budget goes to personnel costs. That leaves the other 35 percent for everything else, including utilities and maintenance. "The expenses associated with the academic program and the clinic are most important," says John Budzynski, Vice President for Business and Finance/CFO. "But we can't cut electricity. We have to be aware of the high maintenance cost of the facility. Some things we have to ask whether we can postpone."

That's where philanthropy comes in. "The work of the Development Office is so important for addressing needs," Budzynski says. And Daum concurs. "I just really appreciate the support of those who give so much," he says. "We've had some wonderful support. For example, Jeff Smith, [OD '83], has given money for faculty development. We have support for an entire array of research projects, and Dr. Dan Roberts has won national funding. Those gifts and grants make a big difference to us."



Dr. Kent Daum, Dean/Vice President for Academic Affairs

On the other hand, Daum says, "The thing that puts us on the edge a little is that the work load is high and the compensation is challenging. Those are the stressors. I and others are continuously working to resolve some of that."



Dr. David Lee presents a lecture.

Because the last thing Daum wants is to lose strength in the faculty. "Our faculty work at the Olympic level," he says. "The parallel between world-class effort and accomplishment is right here. Like the athletes, our faculty do outrageously incredible things. Teaching is a major commitment, but they are also engaged in service – to the institution, to the public, to the profession. Our faculty are vividly engaged in an almost unbelievable array of those activities. They are on committees, inside the College, outside the

Teaching is such an interesting kind of animal, and there are certain things you can't get past. But there are ways to be more productive and the faculty are stepping up."

He continues, "ICO's faculty are typically bright, talented, creative, dedicated people. And, there are lots of exceptionally brilliant senior faculty, who are, to a person, very giving and mentoring. New faculty who come here find it wonderful to have these experienced, senior faculty whose goal is to help others excel. Dr. Len Messner is a perfect example of someone who helps the new people coming up. He's one of many."

College in the city and state, nationally and internationally. They make things happen."

One thing they have made happen is teaching efficiencies. Daum says the faculty are actively increasing its capabilities, such as through the use of technology, and that has a major impact on the institution and the budget. "If you figure out ways to do things more efficiently, it has a good result in itself," he says. "And when that's institution-wide, it makes a big difference. The faculty are coming to grips with how to use technology to the fullest extent, to make student contact as productive and efficient as possible.

Wyles concurs. "I co-teach Ocular Disease III, or, 'Retina' as we call it, with Dr. Messner. He is a great mentor. When I came, he essentially said, 'Here are my resources.' Working with him has been one of the things I enjoy the most here."

That and the clinic. "Our clinic is such a gold mine for education," she says. "When patients come in with unique conditions, you want to teach, you want to call everyone in. Having been other places, I realize how lucky we are here."

94

total faculty,
full- and part-time

56%

of faculty are alumni



Drs. Renee Reeder (r) and Shana Brafman, work with third-year student, Ryan Socwell, in clinic.

EXCITING TIMES

ICO KEEPS CURRENT WITH THE HELP OF ALUMNI



Trish de Maat

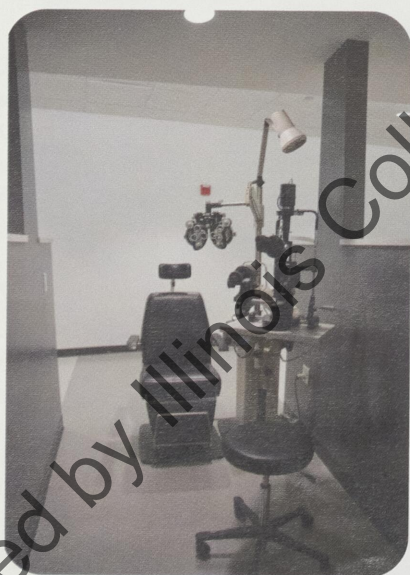
What distinguishes an ICO donor?

"They have strong feelings for what they do and for their profession, and they are loyal to the College itself," says Trish de Maat, ICO's Director of Individual Giving and Development Administration. "Our alumni support ICO because they believe in the practice of optometry; a donation to ICO moves eye care forward."

"We're in an exciting time here," de Maat says. "Alumni are excited about our Strategic Plan and the construction of the Eyepod [see story p. 12]. The Development Office had an excellent response to this year's phon-a-thon, and we added a thank-a-thon, with student callers, to our fundraising calendar."

De Maat says the students who participated in the thank-a-thon enjoyed speaking with ICO donors. "Many of the doctors shared their experiences at ICO and in their practices," she explains. "Most importantly, it gave our students an opportunity to personally thank alumni for their support."

That support is critical now as the College makes strides forward. "The future of ICO is dependent on staying current," says de Maat. "In order for our students to perform at the highest level of proficiency after graduation, they must have up-to-date optometric equipment in an environment conducive to learning current optometric procedures. Our new Eyepod provides that."



Eyepod laboratory lane

But it takes more than tuition to cover expenses such as state-of-the-art laboratories. To make ends meet, ICO gathers support from corporations, foundations and individuals. "Two-thirds of our philanthropic support comes from corporations and foundations," de Maat says. "In order to continue to get that support, we have to show that our alumni are stepping forward as well."

And they are. Last year's goal for the Annual Fund, which supports operational costs and is largely supported by alumni, was to raise \$160,000; \$266,672 was raised with the help of two estate gifts. According to de Maat, "Planned gifts are an important component of our total philanthropic support."

So is the Leadership Circle. "That's an amazing group of people," de Maat says. "They renew year after year; they are very loyal. And the group is growing; they promote it among themselves."

That's de Maat's favorite part of her job. "What I enjoy about ICO is the level of involvement," she says. "Our alumni care about their patients, their profession and their alma mater."

For more information about giving to ICO, contact Trish de Maat at (312) 949-7071 or pdemaat@ico.edu. Donations can also be made online at www.ico.edu, or by calling David Korajczyk at (312) 949-7075 or dkorajczyk@ico.edu.

IRA Charitable Rollover Extended

This fall, the IRA Charitable Rollover was extended through December 31, 2009.

The legislation allows individuals ages 70½ and older to make direct transfers from an IRA to one or more charities of their choice. Up to \$100,000 per year in 2008 and 2009 can be transferred without being recognized as income.

In addition, the transfers will count towards the minimum required distribution each individual over 70½ is required to take from retirement accounts each year.

For more information, contact David Korajczyk, Vice President for Development, at (312) 949-7075 or dkorajczyk@ico.edu.

2008 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

It is with great pleasure that we recognize these many alumni, faculty, friends and institutional donors for their generous contributions to the Illinois College of Optometry. Your financial support during fiscal year 2008 (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008) totaled \$1,164,058. We thank you for your partnership in the ongoing fulfillment of our educational mission.

LIFETIME GIVING

This honor roll reflects cumulative giving of \$5,000 or greater for gifts received through June 30, 2008.

FOUNDER'S CLUB

\$100,000 and above

Estate of Dolly Adams
Alcon Laboratories, Inc
Otto H. Bender, OD
Ciba Vision Corporation
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Essilor of America, Inc
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Richard S. Kattouf, OD, DOS
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Dr. Donald W. Turner
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Vistakon, Inc - a division of Johnson & Johnson
Vision Care
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E. F. Wildermuth Foundation

CHAIRMAN'S CLUB

\$75,000 - \$99,999

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PRESIDENT'S CLUB

\$50,000 - \$74,999

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DEAN'S CLUB

\$25,000 - \$49,999

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American Optometric Association
America's Best Contacts and Eyeglasses, Inc
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John E. Brandt, OD, DOS
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Brian W. Caden, OD, MA*
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ClearVision Optical Company
Mark K. Colip, OD
Estate of Mary H. Condon
Valarie Conrad, OD, MPH and Alan Weiler, OD
Mrs. Dale Conway
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Kelly A. Frantz, OD
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Star Ophthalmic Instruments, Inc
Estate of Dennis P. Steinhart, OD
Volk Optical, Inc
Wendell D. Waldie, OD
Welch Allyn, Inc



Robert Fait, OD '68, at Alumni Weekend 2008

EYE ON GIVING/HONOR ROLL

PATRON'S CLUB

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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Robert L. Albertson, OD
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard F. Amari
American Optometric Foundation
Amerigroup Illinois Inc
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James A. Stewart, OD
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Travis-Pedersen & Associates, Inc
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Vista Eyecare, Inc
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Alvin Zohn, OD

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Legacy Society members share the honor and recognition of having included the Illinois College of Optometry in their wills or estate plans. Through careful gift planning, these donors have made a significant impact on the future of ICO. We are grateful for their forethought.

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Leon M. Roach, OD
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Mark A. Torgerson, OD
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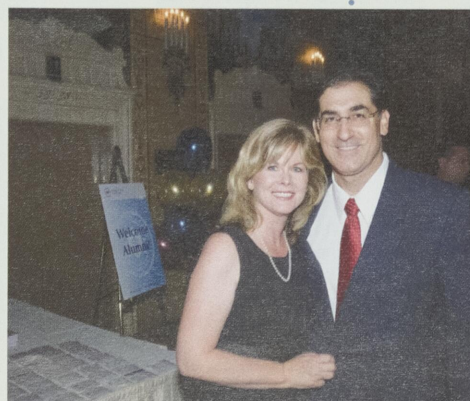
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with his wife, Julie

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Ruth A. Trachimowicz, OD, PhD

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Janis Ecklund Winters, OD
Laurie Wynn, CIMA
Rebecca K. Zoltoski, PhD

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Ms. Mildred A. Bernot
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Door County Eye Associates Inc
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Perry
Dr. Gary J. Morgan and Dr. Kent Aide
Drs. Heying & Heying, PC
DuPage Optical Inc
E. F. Wildermuth Foundation
Edward J. James, OD, Inc
Essilor Lenses
Essilor of America, Inc
Eye Care Associates, PC
Eye Care Centre Ltd
Eye Care For You
Eye Clinic North
Eyecare Consultants, PLC
Family Eye Care Center
Family Optical Ltd
Frostburg Vision Center



Members of the Class of 1998

EYE ON GIVING/HONOR ROLL

ORGANIZATIONS *con't*

Genoa Lions Club
George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities
Giovannetti Eyecare Inc
Haag-Streit Holding US
Hope Lutheran Church
HUB International
Illinois Optometric Association
Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness
Immanuel Ladies Aid
Italee Optometric Center, Inc
J.P. Morgan Chase Bank
Jefferson Eye Care, PC
Jobson Publishing/Review of Optometry
Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies
Kattouf Consulting Services
Keeler Instruments Inc
Kimco Corporation
Knights Of Columbus
Lakeview Eyecare Center Ltd
Larry W. Hicks, OD
Leon Optometric Clinic
Lesnick Optical
Lifetime Vision & Contact Lens Center
Lions Club of Mokena
Lions of Illinois Foundation
Lloyd A. Fry Foundation
Longevity Formulas
Lupe's General Contracting Inc
Luxottica Retail
Lynn Optical Associates, PC
Maplehurst Elevator, Inc
Marquette Associates, Inc
Mary, Mother Of The Church Parish @ St. Thomas More Church
Max Goldenberg Foundation
Meyer Eyecare
Michael Reese Health Trust
Midtown Eyecare Inc
Miller & Miller Optometrists, Inc
Moorhead Vision Associates
National Vision Consultants, Inc
North Florida Eyecare
Park Family Eye Care
Pee Dee Eye Associates PA
Pins Family Chiropractic Clinic
Precision Vision
Reese Partners, LLC
RMDC, Inc
Santee Vision Care Center Optometry
Seven Hills Vision
Smith Family Trust
Sorenson Brothers Trucking
St. Margaret Mary Church

St. Mary's Church
Star Ophthalmic Instruments, Inc
Teamsters Local 959 / Jesse L. Carr Charity Fund
The Field Foundation of Illinois, Inc
The Optical Solution
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Travis-Pedersen & Associates, Inc
Tsang Family Foundation
Union Square Optical, Inc
USI Insurance Services Corporation
Valley Center for Vision
Vision Care Associates
Vision Care Associates, LLC
Vision Care Clinic PC
Vision Service Plan
VisionSource, PC
VNA Foundation
Volk Optical, Inc
Wal-Mart Foundation
Washington Square Health Foundation, Inc
Waupaca Lioness Club
Welch Allyn, Inc
Western Construction Group
Wisconsin Vision Associates, Inc
Wishnow Vision Associates
Zeeland Vision Services, PC

GIFTS-IN-KIND

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Ms. Joanne Braun
Center Point Energy
Ciba Vision Corporation
Expert Optics, Inc
Eye Care Center of America Inc
Robert S. Gerowitz, OD
Paul D. Griffin, OD
Hoya Optical Laboratories
InterContinental Chicago
Kenmark Optical
William E. Leadingham, OD
Luxottica Retail
Matsco
Matthews Bookstore
Modern Optical International
Precision Vision
S. K. Sales
Jeff W. Smith, OD
Ms. Janet Susskind
Vision Service Plan
Waste Management
York International
Zoom Graphics, Inc

LARGEST GIVING BY CLASS YEAR

Amount Donated	Class
\$79,632.25	1940
\$46,470.00	1947
\$37,610.00	1980
\$30,805.00	1969
\$23,833.33	1968
\$17,225.00	1977
\$16,700.00	1972
\$14,200.00	1963
\$13,275.00	1983
\$12,923.30	1949

BEST PARTICIPATION

Participation	Class
20.69%	1979
20.00%	1977
16.20%	1980
13.79%	1960
13.67%	1978
13.39%	1974
13.04%	1971
12.50%	1963
11.86%	1966
11.59%	1976



Paul Griffin OD '53, Nancy Taylor, and Derrald Taylor, OD '68



Richard Jarvis, OD '78, and Ann Clark, OD '78

Second-year student, Tommy Elton, with Kristine Overson

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

The Leadership Circle recognizes our most generous benefactors – those individuals who support the College with annual gifts of \$1,000 or more. Leadership Circle Gold Members have 10 consecutive years of membership and/or have made a single commitment of \$50,000 or more. Leadership Circle Silver Members have five consecutive years of membership and/or have made a single commitment of \$25,000 - \$49,999. Leadership Circle Bronze Members have one to four year(s) of membership and a single commitment of \$1,000 - \$24,999. This list reflects Leadership Circle membership through November 14, 2008.



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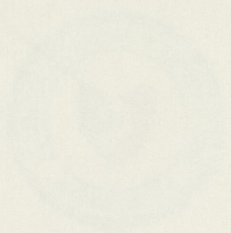
WHERE

Illinois College of Optometry/Illinois Eye Institute
3241 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago

Light refreshments will be served. Business/business-casual attire.

Please RSVP before January 5, 2009, by contacting Connie Scavuzzo at 312-949-7080 or alumni@ico.edu.

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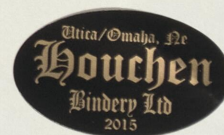
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